



Contact: Dennis Wieland
Alex Lyons
523-4210

NEWS PRESS RELEASE
Effective Immediately

Illinois Severe Weather Awareness Week Prompts Clear Lake Township to implement the e-Lert System

With March 1st – 7th being Illinois Severe Weather Awareness Week, Clear Lake Township has announced going live with the e-Lert System. E-Lert is a public address system that was created by Ken Davis from Kenected Software of Chatham, IL. This software provides text messages, e-mail messages, and computer desktop alerting of severe weather, public works incidents, road closers, and other incidents that require public notification. This program will supplement current alerting systems such as television broadcasts, radio broadcasts, and tornado siren warnings. This service is provided free of charge from the Clearlake Township and is hosted by Riverton Fire and EMS.

The need arose to implement this software due to public concern over the current alerting systems (television, radio, and tornado sirens) not being an effective local warning system. This became clear during the tornado outbreak of March 2005 when power was lost through out Sangamon County. At that time; cell and land line phone systems were overwhelmed with voice calls, but the data system (text messaging) worked flawlessly.

This system is free of charge and anyone can sign-up for the service by visiting the e-Lert website at elert.rafpd.org. "Going live on the system could not have come at a better time since springtime brings a variety of severe weather" stated Supervisor Dennis Wieland. Participants in the system are notified instantly of any warnings.

The server will be maintained by the Riverton Fire Department and the system licensee is Clear Lake Township. Authorized notification users are Clear Lake Township, Riverton Fire Department and the Village of Riverton.

Anyone wishing to participate may register. Friends, Neighbors or relatives who care for residents within the Township are encouraged to sign up to help care for those in need. Participates can receive text, email messages or both of any related emergencies in the area. A once a month testing is sent out the first Tuesday of each month. Once you are registered a confirmation message is sent to the registrar to confirm their registration. Questions can be addressed at the Township at 523-4210.