

# Wireless Public Alerting

## AlertReady.ca

A federal emergency alert system to complement Alberta Emergency Alert

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### What is Wireless Public Alerting?

Wireless Public Alerting is a service designed to deliver critical and potentially life-saving emergency alert messages to Canadians through the National Alert Ready system. Wireless public alerting allows governments across Canada to send public safety messages directly to compatible smartphones in an affected region. It also has to be connected to the 4G LTE network through your cell phone provider.



### Alert Ready

#### Designed with Canadians safety in mind

The Alert Ready system was developed in partnership with federal, provincial and territorial emergency management officials, Environment and Climate Change Canada, The Weather Network and the broadcasting industry and wireless service providers, to ensure you receive alerts immediately and know when to take action to keep yourself and your family safe.

Beginning April 6, 2018, all Canadian wireless service providers will be required to broadcast emergency alerts received from alerting authorities directly using Cell Broadcast technology.

- Wireless service providers will only receive broadcast alerts that are issued for [threat-to-life situations](#) that require immediate broadcast.
- Emergency alerts intended for wireless devices are issued to a defined geographic area so that only people in the defined area receive the emergency alerts.
- Compatible wireless devices in the affected area, including devices that are on roaming, will receive the emergency alerts within seconds of the alert being issued.
- To receive an alert, compatible devices must be powered on and connected to the LTE network.
- This is a mandatory system. You cannot opt out of receiving threat-to-life emergency alerts.
- Not all wireless mobile devices will receive wireless alerts. To check if your cell phone is compatible, contact your [wireless carrier](#).

### Alberta Emergency Alert

Alberta Emergency Alert is an alerting system available in Alberta that provides critical information about developing and immediate disasters. Alerts are distributed a number of ways such as: radio, television, websites, Twitter, Facebook and the [Alberta Emergency Alert App](#).



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To find out more visit [AlertReady.ca](#) or [emergencyalert.alberta.ca](#)

## Two alerting systems to better serve Albertans

Alert Ready and Alberta Emergency Alert are complementary systems. The most serious alerts can be delivered using wireless public alerting to a particular geographic area in the same way that serious alerts are delivered via radio and TV today. Alberta Emergency Alert will continue to provide information on developing emergencies and serious alerts for regions in Alberta.

### Why two systems?

Only the most serious alerts will be sent out using the new national wireless alerting system. Wireless public alerts will contain only basic information designed to give you lifesaving information. Alberta Emergency Alert provides more detailed information on developing and urgent issues including maps and links to additional resources.

### Who sends emergency alerts?

Federal, provincial, and territorial governments are responsible for issuing emergency alerts.

- Federal alerts will most frequently be issued by Environment and Climate Change Canada.
- In Alberta, emergency alerts can be issued by the Alberta Emergency Management Agency and other government partners, including Environment and Climate Change Canada, communities, and law enforcement agencies.

### What to expect

#### Wireless Public Alerts

- If you are in an affected area, anywhere in Canada, the alert will begin with a distinct sound and may also cause the device to vibrate.
- An EMERGENCY ALERT banner will appear on your device describing the situation.
- Instructions on what actions to take and where to find more information will be displayed.
- At the top of each alert, the issuing agency will be clearly indicated.

### Alberta Emergency Alert App

- Download and install the app and then sign-up for emergency alerts from every region in Alberta or for regions that you choose.
- If an alert is issued a message will be sent to your phone.
- There are two categories of alerts: critical or information. Critical alerts are for imminent and life-threatening danger, such as floods, wildfires, tornadoes or Amber Alerts. Information alerts are for awareness and to encourage preparation for events such as severe storms, traffic disruption or air quality warnings.
- The Alberta Emergency Alert App allows you to decide the alert tone and the region(s) in Alberta you can receive alerts from. The app also includes a link to the Be Prepared pages on the AEMA website to provide you additional information about how to prepare for the potential threat.

### Be Prepared

If an emergency happens in your community, it may take emergency workers some time to reach you. By thinking about what you would do before an emergency happens, you can take the necessary steps to prepare yourself and your family, if a disaster occurs.

#### [Know the risks](#)

- In Alberta we can face a number of different hazards. Knowing the risks and hazards in your area will help you know how to prepare for the unexpected.

#### [Make a plan](#)

- Disasters and emergencies cause confusion and distress. Having a plan will help you make informed decisions when it matters most.

#### [Build a kit](#)

- Individuals and families should have basic supplies set aside to meet the needs of everyone in your home for a minimum of 72 hours. Visit [www.aema.alberta.ca/build-a-kit](http://www.aema.alberta.ca/build-a-kit) for a selection of emergency kit checklists that can be personalized to meet the needs of you and your family.

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