

## **Fire Department Announces Severe Weather Procedures**

Severe weather season is upon us and the Fontana Fire Department would like to inform the public on siren warning procedures for the Village of Fontana on Geneva Lake.

The public alert siren only will be sounded for a tornado warning or a high-wind warning. A warning is when the possibility of a tornado is the greatest or a tornado has been spotted within 50 miles of the Village of Fontana. A high-wind warning is when an approaching storm could produce winds in excess of 70 mph.

When the National Weather Service issues a warning, the two sirens in the Village of Fontana will be activated. One siren is located on the Village Hall, 175 Valley View Drive (Highway 67), and the other is located in Abbey Springs. The sirens will sound with a steady blast that will last up to five minutes.

When the sirens are sounded, residents are asked to monitor local television or radio stations, or to monitor the Weather Channel on cable TV.

Residents are requested not to call the Walworth County Dispatch or the Fontana Police/Fire departments to inquire on what is happening. Personnel at these locations are very busy directing operations of emergency equipment and personnel. Residents should also be aware that there will be no "All-Clear" signal sounded; it is up to the public to monitor conditions and TV/radio broadcasts.

If conditions worsen, take shelter immediately.

The Village of Fontana generally sounds the siren at noon on the first Saturday of each month as a test. The siren should sound for about 15 seconds.

Fire Chief Jon Kemmett stated that residents and visitors are welcome to stop at the Merle Robinson Safety Building, 190 Fontana Blvd., and inquire on these procedures.