



# WINS

**Warning-Information-Notification System**

St Clair County Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Management

October 15, 2014



## HSEM Announces WINS Notification System

The St Clair County Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Management is pleased to announce a public / private consortium that allows an integrated solution for but internal and external notifications. The Warning Information Notification System (WINS) is a county wide alliance of public and private organizations who have a shared need to get information to the public at large, or private groups within their organization. Several organizations within the boundaries of St. Clair County have a shared need to rapidly get information to employees, groups, and the public at large.

### WINS Notifications:

- Evacuation
- Shelter in Place
- Tornados
- Other Emergency Alerts
- Weather / Marine Alerts
- Water Alerts
- Prisoner Escapees
- Utility Interruptions
- Police Alerts
- Fire Alerts
- Recreation
- Health Alerts
- Meeting Announcements
- Building Closures
- Policy Acceptance
- Secure Polling
- Secure Voting
- Various uses by each organization

**NOTIFICATION TYPES:** The system is capable of sending alerts in numerous ways that include Home Phones, Cell Phones, Text Messages, E-Mails, and TTY devices. Additionally, the software can leave a message, it can require an acknowledgement, or it can require an option be chosen from the menu.



**The Public side** of the program allows users to CHOOSE what types of notifications are important to them and how they wish to receive them. Although Emergency alerts are mandatory, there are endless possibilities for organizations to set up types of public notifications.

Local governments can choose “opt-in” groups such as Mayor Announcements, Council Announcements, Board Announcements, Community Policing, Fire Safety, Public Works, Recreation, well being checks etc.

Schools can choose “opt-in” groups such as school closing / early dismissal, health alerts, parent teacher notices etc.



**The Private side** of the program allows users to send out any business communication to a closed group of individuals. The uses of the private side are only bounded by “reasonable use” and an organizations needs. These needs will be different for every organization, but can include such things as recall, policy change acknowledgements, meeting announcements, building closure, automated voting etc.

The St. Clair County Office of Homeland Security is creating this public private partnership in acknowledgement of our shared need to have a robust, cost effective way to communicate with the public and private groups. This collaboration will allow each organization ensure their information is available to a wide group as there will be “one stop shopping” which requires a user to sign up once and choose what organizations are important to them based on where they live, work, play, or go to school.

**PARTNERS** included in this notification system will include St. Clair County Government, All Local Governments and Private Organizations such as Council on Aging, Schools and others.

**SIGNUP** <http://www.bereadystclaircounty.org/>



# WINS

## Warning-Information-Notification System



ST CLAIR COUNTY OFFICE OF HOMELAND SECURITY AND EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

**[SIGN UP AT WWW.BEREADYSTCLAIRCOUNTY.ORG](http://WWW.BEREADYSTCLAIRCOUNTY.ORG)**

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT DIRECTOR JEFF FRIEDLAND  
**EMERGENCYMANAGEMENT@STCLAIRCOUNTY.ORG (810) 989-6965**

### Warning-Information-Notification System

#### What is it used for?

#### MANDATORY EMERGENCY ALERTS

An emergency alert is anything that can reasonably be expected to have an impact to Life, Health, Safety, or significant property. These alerts are already sent through sirens, media, social media and other means. However, these notices are often not seen or heard, placing people at extreme risk.

Evacuation notice

Stay in Place notice

Tornado Warning

Any other type of event that would impact Life, Health, Safety, or significant property damage.



#### PARTNER ALERTS

Non-Emergency alerts can range from Emergency Alerts that do not meet the criteria for mandatory alerts to meeting notices. These alerts are mostly initiated and sent by local partners. These notifications require that citizens "opt-in" to receive these notifications

Weather / Marine alerts, warnings and advisories

Amber Alerts

Endangered Adult Missing

Drinking Water Alerts

Utility Interruptions

Major Street Closures

Prisoner Escapes

Police Alerts

Fire Alerts

Recreation

Village / Township / City / County announcement

Health

Meeting Announcements

Legal Notices

#### INTERNAL ALERTS

Internal Alerts are controlled by each organization and is used for business purposes of each organization. The general public can NOT "opt-in" for these notifications and the recipient list is securely held and maintained by each organization.

Internal Emergency Notifications

Non-Emergency Informational Alerts

Group Polling / Voting (can place a number of options for the users choice)

Satisfaction surveys

Building Closures / Early Release

Policy acceptance (with tracking record)

Property Tax Reminders

Meeting Announcements

Committee communications

