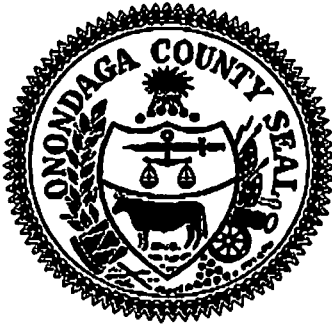




DEPARTMENT: DEPARTMENT of EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS

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MEDIA INQUIRIES: William R. Bleyle, Commissioner 435-7911

Onondaga County 9-1-1 Center Adds Emergency Notification Self Registration Portal

Syracuse, New York – The Onondaga County Department of Emergency Communications announced today that County residents can sign up to receive alerts issued by the Onondaga 9-1-1 Center through a free online gateway. The Self Registration Portal for the GeoCast emergency notification system allows you to receive alerts on your landline or cellular telephone or through e-mail by following the simple steps to sign up. This new service will improve public safety communications efforts throughout the county.

“Our mission is to serve as the critical and vital link between the citizens of Onondaga County and the public safety agencies that serve them,” said Bill Bleyle, Commissioner, Onondaga County Department of Emergency Communications. “We assist public safety agencies in our mission through notifications to the public of critical life safety issues, and the Self Registration Portal is just one more way that we can work toward that goal.”

Existing land-line telephones with active service are automatically registered to receive emergency notifications through the GeoCast system. Cellular and VoIP telephones are not currently in the system database. If you would like to be contacted on cellular or VoIP to receive emergency notifications in your area, you must self-register on the system.

The Self Registration Portal (SRP) now appears on the Onondaga County Department of Emergency Communications website, located at <http://www.ongov.net/911>. Here, residents can complete a short form supplying their contact information, address, and determine their preferences for notification during both emergencies and non-emergencies.

Participants may return to the Self Registration Portal using a secure log-in and update their personal contact information as often as necessary to ensure data accuracy. The GeoCast system seamlessly geo-codes this information and saves it to the application database on a scheduled basis, further ensuring notification integrity. This allows

Onondaga 9-1-1 to send future communications through the application to individuals in the immediate area of an event, improving public safety efforts throughout the county.

Participation is voluntary and your number will not be shared for any other purpose.

Although this is a free service administered by the Onondaga County Department of Emergency Communications, you may be charged a standard fee from your wireless provider if you exceed your current data plan for receiving voice calls or text messages. Onondaga County is not responsible for any charges that may be incurred as a result of receiving these alerts.

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