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**LANE COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE**  
**NEWS RELEASE**

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**DATE/TIME OF RELEASE:**        2/21/2018        8:00 am

**NATURE OF STORY:**            Lane County Encourages Community Members to Sign up for  
Emergency Alerts

**DETAILS:**

Officials from around Lane County met recently to evaluate the effectiveness of warning systems used to alert community members of possible emergencies. This meeting was in response to the potential tsunami watch issued by NOAA on January 23, 2018. Ultimately, information came in indicating that a tsunami was not imminent, therefore no alerts were issued by local officials; however this event prompted officials to review how emergency warnings are issued to community members.

Local officials currently use a mass notification system called AlertSense to alert and warn the local community of emergencies that involve public safety. In an effort to provide lifesaving information to community members, officials are encouraging people to register their cell phones to receive alerts. Analysis of the AlertSense database indicates that approximately 14,000 residents have signed up for this free service, which is a small percentage of Lane County's population.

*How Does AlertSense Work?*

Officials can activate AlertSense for a specific area, alerting community members to an impending emergency. The alert targets landlines and any registered cell phone associated with an address in the impacted area. It takes only a few minutes to register your cell phone for this free service, and users can decide which alerts they would like to receive, and can modify the alerts they would like to receive anytime. This is also a good time for those who have already registered to review their information and ensure their address is correctly mapped in the system.

Community members can sign up to receive emergency alerts at <http://bit.ly/LaneAlertSense>, or use the QR code below.

Lane County partners with the City of Eugene, the City of Springfield, the City of Cottage Grove, the City of Florence, EWEB, and West Lane Ambulance to provide this service to community members.



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