



News Release

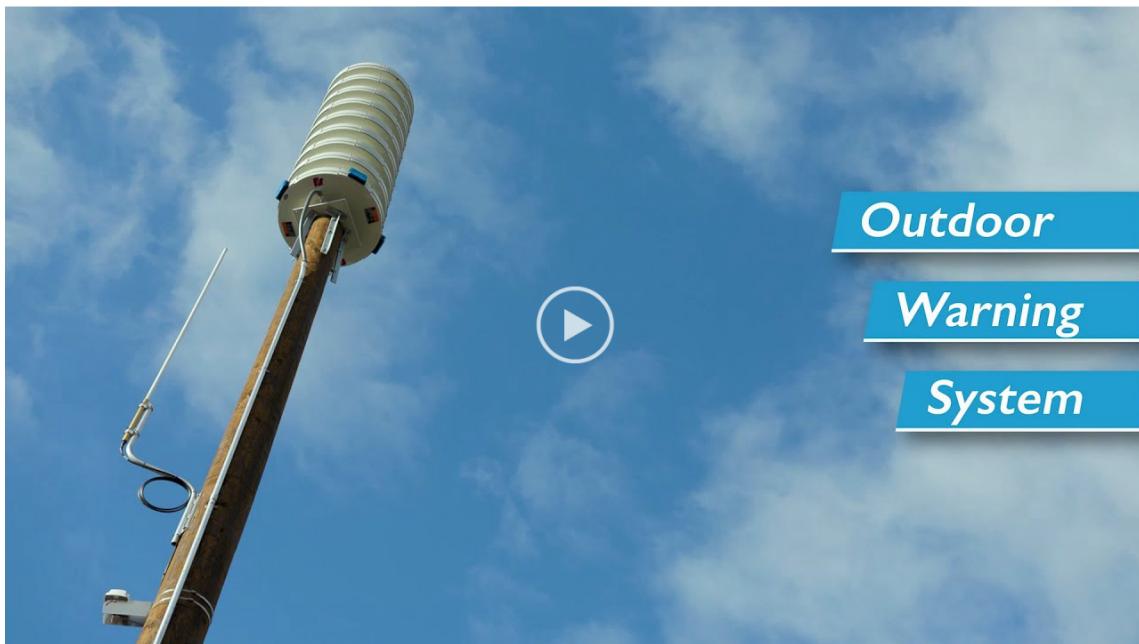
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Feb. 17, 2026

New Outdoor Warning System sirens installed in Eatonville and Tehaleh



New All Hazard Alert Broadcast (AHAB) sirens have been installed at the Eatonville Public Safety Building and Tehaleh Heights Elementary School as part of Pierce County Department of Emergency Management's [Outdoor Warning System](#) expansion. The sirens are equipped with alert tones and voice-recorded messages, along with blue flashing lights, to inform and direct people during community-wide emergencies and evacuations.

"Pierce County is excited to give the communities of Eatonville and Tehaleh a new way to stay safe and well-informed during emergencies with the expansion of our All Hazard Alert Broadcast sirens," said Arel Solie, Pierce County Department of Emergency Management Director. "Historically, these sirens were intended to alert Pierce County residents about volcanic eruptions and lahars, however new technology, including customized sounds and voice-recorded messages, allows us to use them in a wide range of incidents, including severe weather and evacuations."

Pierce County Department of Emergency Management has 42 Outdoor Warning System sirens in the Puyallup River Valley and Nisqually River Valley, with the addition of nine new sirens throughout Pierce County since 2020. Funding sources for the Pierce County siren program expansion include the Washington Emergency Management Division and Federal Emergency Management Agency.

Outdoor Warning System siren testing takes place the first Monday of each month at noon with a Westminster clock chime, flashing blue lights, and an audio announcement in English and Spanish. When there is an actual emergency, the sirens will play a continuously steady beeping sound and strobe lights will flash, followed by a recorded audio message. In the event of a volcanic eruption and lahar, the sirens will emit a loud wailing tone.

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