Colrain Emergency Operations Center

Dear Neighbor,

During an emergency, information can be critical to safety – not to mention helpful and comforting. The town of Colrain and the Colrain Emergency Operations Center would like to make sure that we have the best tools possible in place to share information during an emergency.

Emergencies can take many forms – from snow storms, floods, or even nuclear power plant accidents. Parts of Colrain are within the 10 mile emergency planning zone for the Vermont Yankee Nuclear Power Plant in Vernon, VT. All residents in this zone receive a calendar from the plant each year with important emergency planning information. In this calendar is also a sign up form for the "Rapid Emergency Notification Telephone System", also known as Code Red.

The town of Colrain has gotten permission to use this Rapid Emergency Notification Telephone System for local notification of all town residents – at no cost to the town. This system is capable of dialing 60,000 phone numbers per hour. It then delivers a recorded message to a live person or an answering machine, making three attempts to connect to any number. It can also deliver text messages to mobile phones and send e-mail notifications.
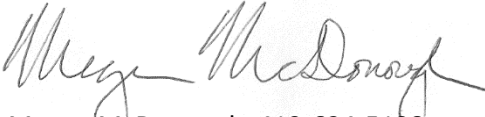
Colrain will use the system a few times a year in non-emergency situations to test our procedures and send out information relevant to all town residents such as reminders about town meeting. However, the primary purpose of the system will be to share important safety information during emergencies, such as:

- Evacuation notices
- How to respond to specific public health threats
- Major road closures

Please sign up your home phone number, cell phone and e-mail for Code Red today online or with the enclosed registration form. Also enclosed in this mailing, is information for residents who may have special needs in an emergency and a general reminder that "minutes matter".

Kind Regards,

Jack Cavolick, 413-624-3238
Colrain Emergency Management Director

Megan McDonough, 413-624-5128
Colrain Code Red Coordinator