

Dear Parents:

Walworth County Emergency Management has set up a new **emergency public alert system** with a company called My State USA. This is how the public alert system works. When an emergency happens, My State USA allows emergency responders to contact people in our county. The emergency responders are able to type and deliver a message with specific instructions. After the message is typed, the system dials telephones in the designated area and reads back the typed message.

This system is able to designate a specific contact area from as small as a street to as large as the entire county. (This could be used for reporting a missing child, evacuating an area, and providing weather alerts or other special instructions. This system has been used several times in the county and is similar to what has been used at some universities to alert their students to emergency situations.)

If you'd like to **register** for My State USA, **please go to the following website** (<http://wisconsin.mystateusa.com/default.aspx?region=21347>) **and fill out the registration information.** Then if there is a local incident the county will be able to contact you through the system. The site is secure and does not give out or sell phone numbers. This is a completely voluntary, free service, though the benefit is being able to be contacted in an emergency situation. It is a good idea to list your home address with your cell phone number.

You may call me with any questions at 262/275-6881, ext. 205.

Sincerely,

Mark Wenzel
Administrator