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PNSWSH

Service Change Notice 21-25  
National Weather Service Headquarters Silver Spring MD  
730 AM EST Tue Feb 23 2021

To:           Subscribers:  
              -NOAA Weather Wire Service  
              -Emergency Managers Weather Information Network  
              -NOAAPort  
              Other NWS Partners and Employees

From:        Michelle Hawkins, Chief  
              Severe, Fire, Public and Winter Weather Services Branch

Subject: Removal of Amber Alerts (SAME code: Child Abduction  
Emergency) from the National Hazards Map: Effective March 24, 2021

Effective Wednesday, March 24, 2021, the NWS will no longer display Amber Alerts (Specific Area Message Encoding (SAME) code: Child Abduction Emergency) on the national Watch, Warning, and Advisory (WWA) map shown here: <https://www.weather.gov/>.

Amber Alerts will appear on the product lists below the national map and to the right of the regional maps, as well as on the local forecast pages within the pink banner at the top of the page.

Currently, the display of an Amber Alert highlights every county within the affected state on the WWA map. As a result, concurrent weather WWA information across the state may not be displayed. To alleviate this issue, and given that Amber Alerts are not environmental hazards, they will no longer highlight the WWA map.

Amber Alert messages will continue to be disseminated through NOAA Weather Radio (NWR), the Emergency Alert System (EAS), Emergency Managers Weather Information Network (EMWIN), and File Transfer Protocol (FTP) services.

To learn more about the Amber Alert system, visit the Department of Justice (DOJ) at:

<https://amberalert.ojp.gov/about>

DOJ collaborates with the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children (NCMEC) to maintain a list of active Amber Alerts here:

<https://www.missingkids.org/gethelpnow/amber>

Further questions should be directed to:

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National Service Change Notices are online at:

<https://www.weather.gov/notification>

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