UPennAlert Emergency Notification System

The UPennAlert Emergency Notification System enables the University to quickly notify the Penn and surrounding Philadelphia community of critical information during a major emergency. This is accomplished through three (3) key methods: personal electronic devices, siren and public address systems, and digital displays.

Currently the University can notify all Penn faculty, staff and students via personal electronic devices (cellphones, etc.) through text messaging and email. The University also has siren and public address systems in place to send a UPennAlert. The Penn Siren Outdoor System (PennSOS) comprises 27 speakers transmitting voice intelligible emergency messages and alert tones to the outdoor campus environment. PennSOS is not designed to penetrate buildings, but will be audible above normal street noise.

When a UPennAlert is sent, the Division of Public Safety uses their website to provide current and continuous updates, acting as a central reference point for accurate information. This method is useful for those both on and off campus.

UPennAlert is an additional layer of security and protection in emergency response, in conjunction with Penn's well-established emergency communication methods that include University-wide broadcast emails, online updates via the Penn homepage, coordinated use of public media outlets, and public address systems within all College Houses.

www.publicsafety.upenn.edu/pennready/upennalert