



Hurricanes, Floods and Other Severe Weather

Alert Templates for Government Agencies

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Introduction

Severe weather events continue to increase in both frequency and intensity.

Data from the [2023 OnSolve Global Risk Impact Report](#) found that from 2021 to 2022, extreme weather events were up 42 percent in the U.S. The incidence of flash floods increased 52 percent and the frequency of severe storms rose 138 percent. When inclement weather hits, it's too late to start thinking about how you'll react to it. The more carefully you imagine an inclement weather scenario and plan your response to it, the further you'll be ahead in managing it appropriately.

With automatic, customizable alerts, you'll be prepared in advance. By creating message templates prior to a crisis, you can generate detailed and informative alerts for every step in your emergency plan. In the wake of an emergency, your messages can be sent quickly to the right audience. Recipients receive only the messages applicable to them, which helps eliminate confusion during a stressful time.



How to Use the Severe Weather Alert Templates

Follow these basic guidelines:

- 1 Keep the message length to a minimum.**

This ensures recipients can get the most information in the least amount of time. Text messages should not exceed 160 characters. Limitations on texting length means that longer messages are broken into multiple messages, which are not always delivered in the right order. Some templates in this resource will need to be condensed to fit within your provider's texting parameters.
- 2 Remember these templates are only a suggestion.**

You may need to modify them to fit your agency's needs or situation.
- 3 Review your policies and procedures for issuing emergency notifications.**

In most cases, the more notice you can give someone the better the outcome may be.