

CHEROKEE COUNTY EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

CITIZEN STORM SHELTER ACCOUNTABILITY PROJECT

In order to better prepare Cherokee County citizens, Cherokee County Emergency Management (CKEM) is launching a new public awareness effort regarding personal storm shelters.

Through training and lessons learned, CKEM has realized the need for citizen accountability after a storm has passed. The possibility of becoming trapped inside a shelter after the storm is a harsh reality. It is not unheard of for trees, cars, or other debris to land on a shelter door, trapping people inside.

What if the storm took out telecommunications? Or what if the shelter occupants did not have sufficient water, food, or ventilation? It is because of this threat that CKEM is launching this effort.

CKEM is asking area residents to register their storm shelters. This will allow us to enhance our search and rescue efforts to ensure you and your family are safe following a severe storm.

In addition to ensuring the safety of our citizens, this effort will also help to ensure the safety of our first responders and weather spotters. When severe weather approaches, CKEM deploys trained weather spotters throughout the county to gather the most up to date information and threat analysis. Often times, these weather spotters are in remote areas of the county, and could be in the path of danger. By registering your shelter, you'll have the option of allowing our first responders or trained weather spotters to seek safety in your shelter. We understand that some personal shelters may have only enough space for the members of your household, and may not be able to accommodate additional occupants. This shelter registration in no way obligates you to accommodate first responders or weather spotters.

For more information, or if you have any questions regarding this effort, please contact Cherokee County Emergency Management at (620) 429-1857. Please mail this completed registration form to: **Cherokee County Emergency Management, P.O. Box 143, Columbus, KS 66725**

NAME _____

PHONE NUMBER _____

ADDRESS OF SHELTER _____

SHELTER CAPACITY AND LOCATION ON PROPERTY _____
(If additional space is needed, please use the back of this form)

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE OF SHELTER _____
(This information can be obtained through the office of CKEM, or the Mapping office)

SECONDARY CONTACT (in case of emergency) _____

- check this box if a responder or spotter MAY seek safety in your shelter
- check this box if a responder or spotter MAY NOT seek safety in your shelter

SIGNATURE _____ DATE _____