



News Release

STATE OF MARYLAND

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY AND CORRECTIONAL SERVICES

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Hagerstown DOC Prisons to Test Emergency Siren April 14 and 15

Alert System Part of Enhanced Emergency Notification System For the Community

TOWSON, MD (April 9, 2009)---The Maryland Division of Correction will be testing the emergency alert siren at the Roxbury Road prison complex south of Hagerstown on April 14 and 15 from 12:30 to 1:30 p.m. During that one-hour period each day, people who are near the three-prison complex will hear repeated testing of the siren, which is being upgraded and enhanced to alert the community in case of an escape or other prison emergency. During the test, the siren will sound a thirty-second blast, followed by a thirty-second pause, then another thirty-second blast. This will continue repeatedly throughout the entire hour each day.

The DOC and its parent agency, the Maryland Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services (DPSCS), are working on a number of upgrades to better alert communities across the state in the event of an emergency,

Once the siren has been successfully tested and modified, a weekly test will be performed at the same time each week. DPSCS will notify residents in detail about the siren test and final emergency plans once this testing has been completed.

The DOC operates three medium-security prisons on Roxbury Road, approximately four miles south of Hagerstown: the Maryland Correctional Institution-Hagerstown, Maryland Correctional Training Center, and Roxbury Correctional Institution. Those DOC facilities account for more than 1,500 jobs and house approximately 6,000 male inmates.

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