Required Weekly Test (RWT)

An independent weekly test of EAS capabilities by each EAS Participant (e.g. broadcast media, federal, state, territory, tribal or local agency). It includes the transmission of an abbreviated EAS message, over the air with the EAS protocol and via the internet with the CAP protocol. The Required Weekly Test (RWT) message is logged by each broadcast media facility (radio, TV, cable, satellite and wireline systems) and is not intended to interrupt programming on other EAS facilities.

Broadcast media facilities typically transmit only an abbreviated RWT message, i.e. a minimum of the EAS header and end-of-message tones without any embedded audio message. Nevertheless, on purpose or accidently, they may transmit a complete EAS message, i.e. the EAS header, Attention Signal, audio/visual message, and end-of message tones. In addition to recording an audio message as part of the RWT, some facilities may make announcements before the EAS header or after the end-of-message tones.

Note: DHS IPAWS does NOT forward RWT messages to NOAA weather radios (non-weather emergency messages) or cellphones (Wireless Emergency Alert). NOAA weather radio stations transmit their own, independent RWT messages.

IMPORTANT: Always assume any EAS or CAP message may be publicly broadcast or published through any potential EAS or CAP channel, including test messages. To avoid public confusion, CAP test messages must always identify each part of the message as a test, including: cellular text, computer headline, description and instruction. If an EAS or CAP test message includes an audio portion, the audio message must also identify it as a test.

Required Weekly Test (RWT)

Emergency Alert System Elements

Originator Code (ORG):	EAS	EAS Participant
Event Code (EEE):	RWT	Required Weekly Test
Location Codes (PSSCCC):	PSSCCC	County of license or operating area
Duration (HHMM):	0100	1 Hour

Common Alerting Protocol Elements

Category: Other
Event: Required Weekly Test
Response Type: None

Urgency:	☐ Immediate	☐ Expected	☐ Future	☐ Past	☒ Unknown
Severity:	☐ Extreme	☐ Severe	☐ Moderate	☒ Minor	☐ Unknown
Certainty:	☐ Observed	☐ Likely	☐ Possible	☐ Unlikely	☒ Unknown

Wireless Emergency Alert (WEA) Text (90 characters or less including spaces):

Description of the hazard Location of the emergency Recommended action (urgency) Expected expiration if known	Weekly test by *[Sender Name]*

Computer Headline (140/160 characters or less including spaces):

Recommended action (urgency) Description of hazard Location of emergency Expected expiration if known	Weekly test by *[Sender Name]*

Description (Instruction + Description should be 1500 characters or less and under 200 words):

Lead sentence briefly stating the official source, hazard and location. Why do people need to act? Where is the emergency taking place?	This is a weekly test by *[Sender Name]*.

Instruction (Instruction + Description should be 1500 characters or less and under 200 words):

What should people do? When do people need to act? (next update, expiration) Closing.	This concludes this test.