# Hazardous Materials Warning (HMW)

A warning of the release of a non-radioactive hazardous material (such as a flammable gas, toxic chemical, or biological agent) that may recommend evacuation (for an explosion, fire or oil spill hazard) or shelter-in-place (for a toxic fume hazard).

**Emergency Alert System Elements**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Originator Code (ORG):** | CIV | Civil Authority |
| **Event Code (EEE):** | HMW | Hazardous Materials Warning |
| **Location Codes (PSSCCC):** | PSSCCC | Locations included in alert area |
| **Duration (HHMM):** | 0300 | 3 Hours |

**Common Alerting Protocol Elements**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Category:** | CBRNE |
| **Event:** | Hazardous Materials Warning |
| **Response Type:** | Avoid |

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Urgency:** | [ ]  Immediate | [x]  Expected | [ ]  Future | [ ]  Past | [ ]  Unknown |
| **Severity:** | [ ]  Extreme | [x]  Severe | [ ]  Moderate | [ ]  Minor | [ ]  Unknown |
| **Certainty:** | [ ]  Observed | [x]  Likely | [ ]  Possible | [ ]  Unlikely | [ ]  Unknown |

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

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Description of the hazardLocation of the emergencyRecommended action (urgency)Expected expiration if known | Hazardous *[Material]* releasein *[Short Area/City/County/State].*Avoid area. |

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

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Recommended action (urgency)Description of hazardLocation of emergencyExpected expiration if known | Avoid areadue tohazardous *[Material]* releasein the *[Area/City/County/State]* area |

**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? | The *[Official Government Agency]* has issued a Hazardous Material Warningbecause of *[Hazardous Material]* in the *[Area/City/County/State]* area.At *[Incident Time] [Day]*, *[Describe the incident, hazard and its consequences]*.This impacts people in *[Area/City/County/State],* including *[Describe location by reference to obvious geographic features, such as roads and rivers, rather than with abstract descriptions such as a one-mile radius of some intersection. The preferred method of describing the area should use compass directions and neighborhood and landmark names where appropriate.].*People in other areas of *[Area/City/County]* are not affected at this time. |

**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. | For your safety, stay away from this location so that emergency units and hazmat teams can work unimpeded.The [Event Type] remains in effect until further notice. This message will be updated in [Message Duration], or sooner if needed.For more information, check www.*[Official Web Site]*.gov, or tune to local news media. Please do not call *[9 1 1],* except to report a serious emergency. |

**Emergency Alert System Elements**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Originator Code (ORG):** | CIV | Civil Authority |
| **Event Code (EEE):** | HMW | Hazardous Materials Warning |
| **Location Codes (PSSCCC):** | 038101 | Ward County, ND |
| **Duration (HHMM):** | 0300 | 3 Hours |

**Common Alerting Protocol Elements**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Category:** | CBRNE |
| **Event:** | Shelter in Place Warning |
| **Response Type:** | Shelter |

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Urgency:** | [x]  Immediate | [ ]  Expected | [ ]  Future | [ ]  Past | [ ]  Unknown |
| **Severity:** | [x]  Extreme | [ ]  Severe | [ ]  Moderate | [ ]  Minor | [ ]  Unknown |
| **Certainty:** | [x]  Observed | [ ]  Likely | [ ]  Possible | [ ]  Unlikely | [ ]  Unknown |

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

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Description of the hazardLocation of the emergencyRecommended action (urgency)Expected expiration if known | [Test] Chemical spill and toxic cloudfrom train derailment near Minot.Shelter-in-Place Now! |

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

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Recommended action (urgency)Description of hazardLocation of emergencyExpected expiration if known | [Test] Immediate shelter in place adviseddue to chemical release and toxic cloud drifting eastwardfrom train derailment half-mile west of Minot |

**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 test.]The Minot Police Department has issued an immediate Shelter in Place Warningbecause of a toxic chemical release from a train derailment west of Minot North Dakota.At 1:40 a.m. this morning, a train derailed. Tanker cars with the chemical, anhydrous ammonia, ruptured one-half mile west of Minot near Boar’s Truck Stop. A toxic chemical cloud is drifting eastward towards the City of Minot.Due to the toxic chemical cloud, emergency officials are recommending residents within three miles of the train accident immediately shelter-in-place. This includes the neighborhood of Tierracita Vallejo, and the city of Minot. |

**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. | For your safety, you should shelter in place, turn off your furnaces and air handling systems, and if necessary, use large amounts of water from your shower and breathe through wet wash cloths.Shelter-In-Place now! Stay inside until further notice. This message will be updated in 3-hours, or sooner if needed.For more information, tune to local news media. Please do not call 9 1 1, except for a serious emergency.[This is only a test.] |

**Note:** This sample alert is based on post-incident investigations and reports of a train derailment near the City of Minot, North Dakota. This sample alert reflects only partial information was available at the time, and that initial reports are not 100% accurate.