

## GERMANIA HOSE COMPANY EMERGENCY SIREN

In the coming days, Germania Hose Company will be placing into service our new emergency siren that will be used to alert local first responders, as well as the local community of an emergency. We have been in the process of replacing our old siren since it was rendered unserviceable. With the help of Duryea Borough and then Representative Mike Carroll, we were able to secure an LSA Grant for its' replacement. It has taken us a few years to secure funding, order the new siren, find a pole large enough to accommodate the new siren and finally find a contractor that has experience in installing sirens. We are a 100% Volunteer organization who relies on timely notifications to alert us that we are needed in an emergency. Every second saved puts us 1 second closer to helping those in need.

This new siren doubles as an emergency notification system for our local community, available to alert our residents (and maybe the residents 1 town over) of any impending weather, natural or other types of emergencies that require mass notification.

This new siren was placed at a higher level than the old one with the intention to have the sound be higher up to carry farther, but most importantly to be mindful of our neighbors nearby.

Now to the question – Why was it needed to replace the old siren?!?

The purpose of these sirens are to alert the residents and volunteer members of an emergency. While we do rely on other forms of communication such as pagers, and cell phones – we all know technology has its shortcomings!

Batteries die, pagers and cellphones aren't always by the side of your local volunteers, delays in 3rd party applications like lamResponding (the app Germania uses to alert volunteers) can be frequent, with some calls not coming through at all.

The National Fire Protection Association recommends that there are at least 2 reliable means to alert firefighters.. The siren gets to the firefighters who don't have their phones or pagers on them, no matter where they are in our community. With us being 100% volunteer, we need as many members alerted as possible.

Lastly, it says to everyone – somebody needs help! And more importantly – that help is on the way... It notifies the local area to be alert for both firefighters responding to the station and fire trucks responding to the emergency!

As much of an inconvenience this siren may be (and we truly apologize for that), it helps us help you! We hope this little bit of information helps bridge some gaps and offers some solid reasoning why this device is so important and still serves a purpose.

Thank You

Members of Germania Hose Company