

First order of weather radios given out; more on the way

In less than 10 days, the City of Dickson has distributed all of the weather radios from its first order. A second order has been placed and should be available in the coming weeks.

The Midland Weather and Emergency Alert radios are being offered free to each residence in the City of Dickson as part of the Seconds Matter! campaign to improve safety. The radios are programmed for weather and emergency announcements for the Dickson area and were being distributed through the Dickson Fire Department starting Oct. 1.

“Dickson residents were very receptive and excited to add the weather radios to their homes to stay informed of dangerous weather situations,” said Mayor Don L. Weiss Jr., who announced the upcoming radio giveaway in his address to the Dickson County Chamber breakfast on April 1. “We will continue to provide the free radios until every home in the city that wants one has one.”

Dickson Fire Department Chief Richard Greer announced that the first order of 125 radios was distributed by Friday, October 10, and residents seeking radios are being advised to monitor the city’s social media for when the next order arrives.

“The city will announce on its website and Facebook page and through local news media when we are ready to resume handing out the radios,” Greer said. “It is best that anyone interested call 615-446-6331 before coming to the fire department to make sure they are available.”

City Administrator David Travis said the first order of 125 radios was to gauge what the public’s interest would be in receiving the radios.

“We wanted to see what kind of response there would be before committing to purchasing more radios,” Travis said. “We have placed an order for 200 more radios and expect them to be available within the next couple weeks. We’ll continue to provide radios until we get one in every home that wants one.”

The radios are being offered to homes within the city limits of Dickson as part of the Seconds Matter! campaign started in 2016 that now includes free address markers, trigger locks, smoke detectors and child safety seat inspections for residents along with the CodeRED emergency alert system that provides free text messages, emails and calls for notifications of emergency situations.

The City will announce when the next order of radios is available and they can be picked up at Dickson Fire Department Station #1, 101 Church St., 7:00 am-3:00 pm Monday-Friday. Residents are restricted to one radio per household and must provide proof of residence within the city limits.

To request a smoke detector, contact the Dickson Fire Department at 615-446-6331 or stop by Station #1 at 101 Church St. during weekday business hours.

To obtain a free trigger lock, contact the Dickson Police Department at 615-446-5403 or stop by 202 South Main St. during weekday business hours.

Certified personnel from the police and fire departments can check the installation of a child safety seat during weekday business hours and frequently conduct safety seat checkpoints at community events such as the Dickson County Fair and Old Timers Day.

To sign up for the CodeRED notifications, text “Dickson” to 24639 to set up a free CodeRED account and make your choices for what kind of messages you want and how you want to receive them. You also can go online to <https://accountportal.onsolve.net/dicksontn>.