

Burlington County unveils

New Emergency Notification System

By Kristina Scala, staff writer | Posted: Tuesday, January 12, 2016 5:00 am

MOUNT HOLLY — CodeRED, an emergency notification system, went dark in Burlington County to make way for a new provider.

Officials announced the switch to Swift911 — an emergency alert system from SwiftReach Networks Inc. in Bergen County — to immediately notify residents in all 40 municipalities in the event of a disaster or other emergency.

The \$75,000 contract with the new provider is saving the county \$15,000 annually without reducing services, county spokesman Eric Arpert said. The changeover to [Swift911](#) was part of a collective decision made under a shared-services agreement with Camden, Gloucester, Salem and Cumberland counties to improve response times in case emergency services personnel are forced to cross county borders.

According to Freeholder Ryan Peters, who is Burlington County's public safety liaison, Swift911 is a "valuable tool" used to keep residents informed if and when a disaster or emergency occurs.

“Our goal is to ensure that each of our municipalities and law enforcement agencies have an efficient and reliable way to communicate with our residents and businesses during an emergency,” Peters said in a statement.

The new alert system, which is no different from CodeRed, delivers notifications via a phone call, text message, fax and social media when fires, floods, hurricanes, evacuations, road closings and power outages occur, according to the company's website. Although the county will continue alerts using a different company and registration information from residents will be carried over, all residents are urged to sign up under the new system.

"It is important to remember that an emergency can happen at any time, and you want to be prepared. Registering for these alerts takes less than a minute," Peters said.

To sign up for the alerts, visit the county website, <http://www.co.burlington.nj.us/210/Emergency-Notification-Systems>.