

Siren alarm? What to do? Osnabrück - Population Warnings

Why are alerts issued?

Major incidents and dangerous situations threaten your safety and property. In the event of danger, you will be warned on the spot so that you can prepare for the danger and take the correct action.

Reasons for warning the population can be:

- major fires
- severe weather
- floods
- acute bomb disposal
- Pollutant spills
- other acute hazards

How are warnings issued?

You are often warned by one or more means:





- Sirens
- radio and television
- warning apps such as NINA or KatWarn
- Information channels of the city administration
- social media
- Digital city information boards

What should you do?

- Keep calm
- Switch on the radio (OS radio / NDR 2, use a car radio or battery-operated radio in the event of a power failure).
- Go to/leave buildings or flats (follow instructions)
- Ask or inform neighbours
- Close doors and windows
- Do not block emergency calls

In Osnabrück, the siren system is only used in the event of very serious damage or danger.

Four different alarms can be triggered in each case:

1.	Test alarm (12 seconds howling for testing)	
2.	Alerting volunteer fire brigade (1 minute: 3 x 12 seconds continuous tone; 2 x 12 seconds interruption) (not in Osnabrück)	
3.	Warning (1 minute rising and falling wailing tone)	
4.	All-clear (1 minute continuous tone)	

Nationwide Warning Day

The nationwide warning day serves to test the warning systems and also invites people to inform themselves about the warning of the population. It takes place on the second Thursday in September.

On this day, starting at 11 a.m., a test warning in the form of a warning text is sent to all warning multipliers (e.g. radio stations and app servers) connected to the Modular Warning System (MoWaS) of the Federation.

The warning multipliers send the sample warning with a time delay to warning devices such as televisions, radios and smartphones. There you can then read and/or hear the warning.

In parallel, all warning devices available in Osnabrück are triggered. This means that in addition to the warning apps, sirens will sound in the city area and messages will appear on digital city information boards and on information channels of the city administration.

At around 11.45 a.m., an all-clear signal will be given via the warning devices and terminals that were previously used to send the warning. No all-clear warning is currently being sent via cell broadcast. The possibility of also sending an all-clear via this warning channel is currently being examined by the mobile network operators, among others.

Information about the NINA app

With the Federal Emergency Information and Notification App, or NINA for short, you can receive important civil protection warnings for various hazardous situations, such as the spread of hazardous substances or a major fire. Weather warnings from the German Weather Service and flood information from the responsible of the federal states are also part of the of the app. Subscribe to the areas and places for which you want to be warned. If you wish, the NINA warning app also warns you of your current location. No location data is collected in the process.

Cell Broadcast

Since the beginning of 2023, the city of Osnabrück has been able to issue warnings by means of Cell Broadcast. Cell Broadcast can basically be used to warnings to everyone in a certain section of the of the mobile network, a so-called cell, to all mobile radio terminals (smartphone and conventional and conventional mobile phones) located in a specific section of the mobile network. An additional installation of apps is not necessary. Prerequisites for receiving are: The current operating system update is installed, the device is switched on and is not in flight mode.

Current warnings and general information at: www.osnabrueck.de/warungen

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