

Delaware Emergency Notification System

Overview

- The Delaware Emergency Notification System (DENS) is the main emergency system for public warnings and emergencies regarding health, safety, and welfare of Delaware citizens.
- In the event a king tide, storm surge, hurricane or other disaster is approaching, the DENS system warns people in affected areas to evacuate and/or implement their flood mitigation plan including the installation/ deployment of any temporary flooding adaptation strategies.
- Local, county, and state emergency agencies send alerts to people living within affected grids of the event through DENS.
- Local 911 centers and/or emergency managers can send messages directly to people in specific streets, neighborhoods, or other areas that are affected by the flooding event.
- DENS is also intended to aid emergency responders in locating residents and better serve their needs during emergencies.
- DENS alerts can be received by phone call, text, or email.
- Users can set their language preference.
- Traditional land lines are automatically added to the DENS system, but cell phone lines and unlisted numbers must be added to the system manually to receive alerts.
- Sign up to receive alerts from DENS here: <https://dema.delaware.gov/onlineServices/index.shtml?dc=dens>
- Although this method will not extend the life of the property, it can give residents more time to implement any active flood protection measures and evacuate the area.
- The Delaware Emergency Notification System uses Smart911 as their platform.



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Key Takeaways

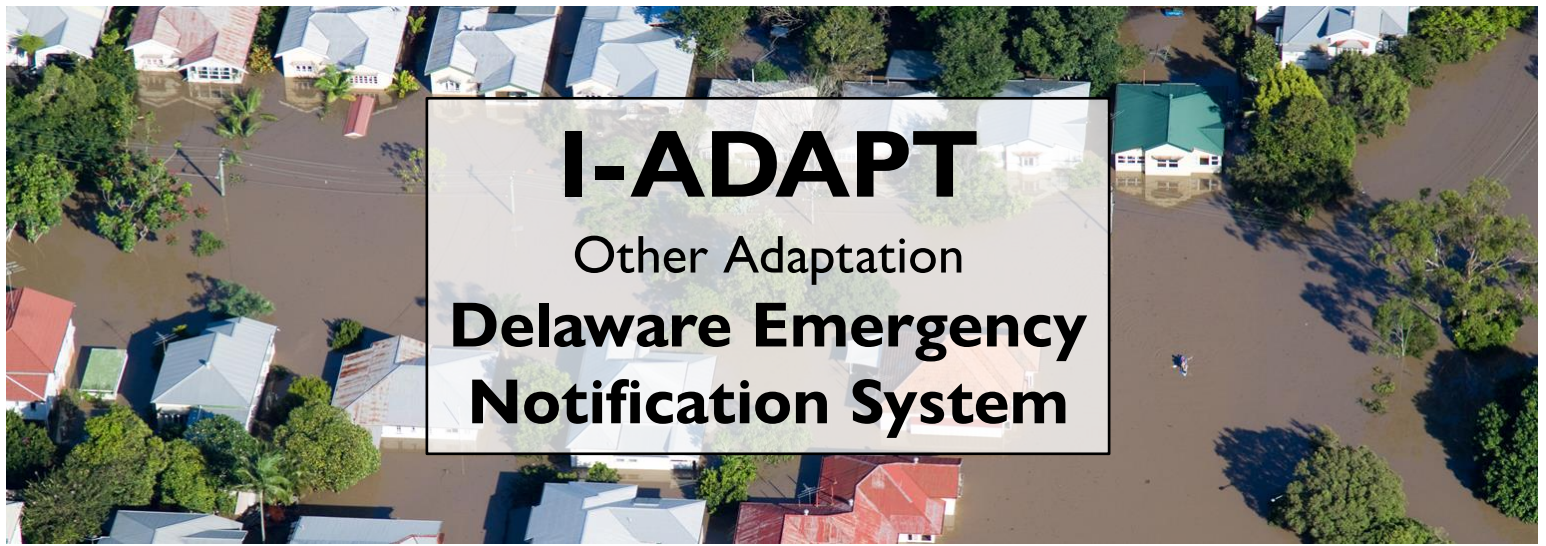
During flood events or other natural disasters, the health, safety, and welfare of Delawareans may be at risk.

When residents receive warning prior to emergency events, they may have the opportunity to better protect themselves and their property.

In order to better prepare for emergency conditions such as flooding, sign up for the Delaware Emergency Notification System (DENS) to receive phone, text, or email notifications of emergency conditions.



Photo credit: DNREC



I-ADAPT

Other Adaptation

Delaware Emergency Notification System

Estimated Costs/Benefits

*U.S. dollars (2022), estimates are subject to change

| Potential Costs | | Potential Benefits | | |
|--|------------|---|--------------------------------|------------------------------|
| Item | Estimate | Post-Flood Recovery Action | Estimate | |
| Delaware Emergency Notification System | \$0 | Flood damage recovery (professional clean-up, mold removal, replacement/ repair of flood damaged items) | 1 in. water ↓ 4 ft water | \$10,800+ ↓ \$203,000+ |
| | | Enough time for a safe evacuation | Incalculable | |
| ESTIMATED TOTAL COST | \$0 | ESTIMATED TOTAL SAVINGS | \$10,800-\$203,000+ | |

Additional Resources

- [Delaware Emergency Management Agency \(DEMA\)](#)
- [Delaware Emergency Notification System \(DENS\)](#)
- [Delaware Homeowner Handbook to Prepare for Natural Hazards](#)
- [Smart911](#)

Resources can also be found at <https://de.gov/iadapt>

Additional Actions

- This adaptation strategy is only intended to be a warning system. Therefore, once the warning is received, the property's flood mitigation plan must be implemented including the installation/ deployment of any temporary flooding adaptation strategies.
- Make sure to sign up all phone numbers (personal cell, landline, etc.) and email addresses.

Permitting Agencies

- No permits are required.

Expected Maintenance

- Update information in the DENS portal whenever you move, the family grows, you get a new pet, etc.

Who to Contact

- Delaware Emergency Management Agency (DEMA)

Technical definitions and more information are located on the I-ADAPT website: <https://de.gov/iadapt>.



This information is intended to be used for planning purposes. It is not intended to substitute or take precedence over the guidance of design engineers, contractors, utility companies or regulatory agencies.

For more information, contact DNREC's Division of Climate, Coastal and Energy at DNREC_IADAPT@Delaware.gov

