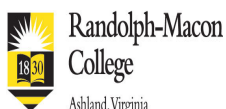


The Ashland Police Department is notifying the community of an emergency siren test at Randolph-Macon College, which will occur in the afternoon of Thursday, March 20, 2008. Members of the Ashland Police Department will be on campus to assist in monitoring the test. If you have any questions please contact Corporal James Shelhorse with the Ashland Police Department or Anne Marie Lauranzon and Pam Harris Cox with Randolph-Macon College Media Relations at 804-752-3712.



Randolph-Macon College to Test Emergency Siren

Ashland, VA – Randolph-Macon College will test its emergency siren on Thursday, March 20, 2008 at 1:45 p.m.

R-MC's Emergency Response Team has planned this test to educate the college community on how to react when they hear this siren in the event of an emergency situation on campus.

During this exercise, when the siren is activated, a "wail" sound will warn the college community to seek shelter inside of a building, immediately. A text message and e-mail notice will also be sent through R-MC Alerts, during the drill with further instructions and information. Everyone will remain in a secure location until an "all-clear" steady tone is heard.

The siren may be heard beyond the boundaries of the campus in the immediate area. . The R-MC Emergency Response Team is working closely with members of the regional Campus Safety Taskforce which includes the Ashland Police Department, Hanover County Sheriff's Office, Hanover Fire/EMS, and the Hanover Emergency Communications Center to notify surrounding neighbors and businesses. The Ashland Police Department is also working with the Hanover Sheriff's Office to utilize the "City Watch" system, a reverse 9-1-1 system which will notify the surrounding community by telephone prior to the test. Emergency officials will also patrol the campus and surrounding community during the test.

Media wishing to cover this test must notify Pam Harris Cox at (office) 804-752-3712, (cell) 804-937-7936, pamelacox@rmc.edu or Anne Marie Lauranzon at alauranz@rmc.edu , 804-752-7317 no later than Wednesday, March 19, 2008.