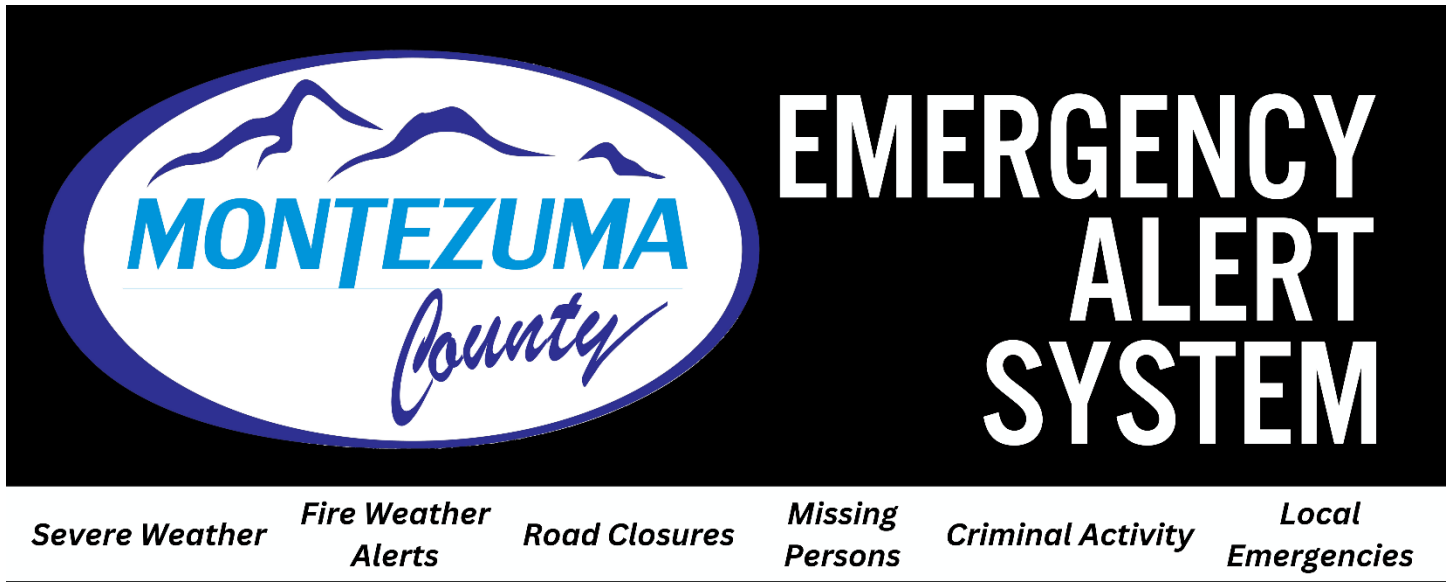


# Montezuma County Office of Emergency Management Monthly Situation Report

**REPORT SUBMITTED BY:** Jim Spratlen

**REPORT DATE / TIME:** 09/29/23 17:30 MST



## EOC/DOC ACTIVATIONS

### County EOC:

- Not activated
- All Lifelines are at "Green" Status. WebEOC reporting weekly.

### COUNTY LIFE LINES

Meaning of key Lifeline colors:

Green stabilization;  
Yellow solution ID and plan of action in progress;  
Red services disrupted.

### Disaster Emergency Declarations:

- On 5/26/21 Ute Mountain Ute Tribe declared a drought disaster and it is still in effect.

### **Fire Situation:**

- No fire restrictions in Montezuma County

### **Snag Fire – 0.75 Acres**

- Fire Discovery Date/Time: 9/26/2023, 6:08:54 PM
- Acreage: 0.75 [total]
- Strategy: Full Suppression
- Fire Cause: Natural
- East of Stapleton at 145
- Lat / Long: 37.473667, -108.3275
- Agency: USFS

### **Hope Fire – 580 Acres**

The Hope Fire was lightning-caused and detected on September 21st. The fire is being managed under a full suppression strategy by local resources from the Dolores Ranger District of the San Juan National Forest. It is currently burning at Hoppe Point located northwest of the McPhee Dam and Reservoir, east of Bradfield Campground.

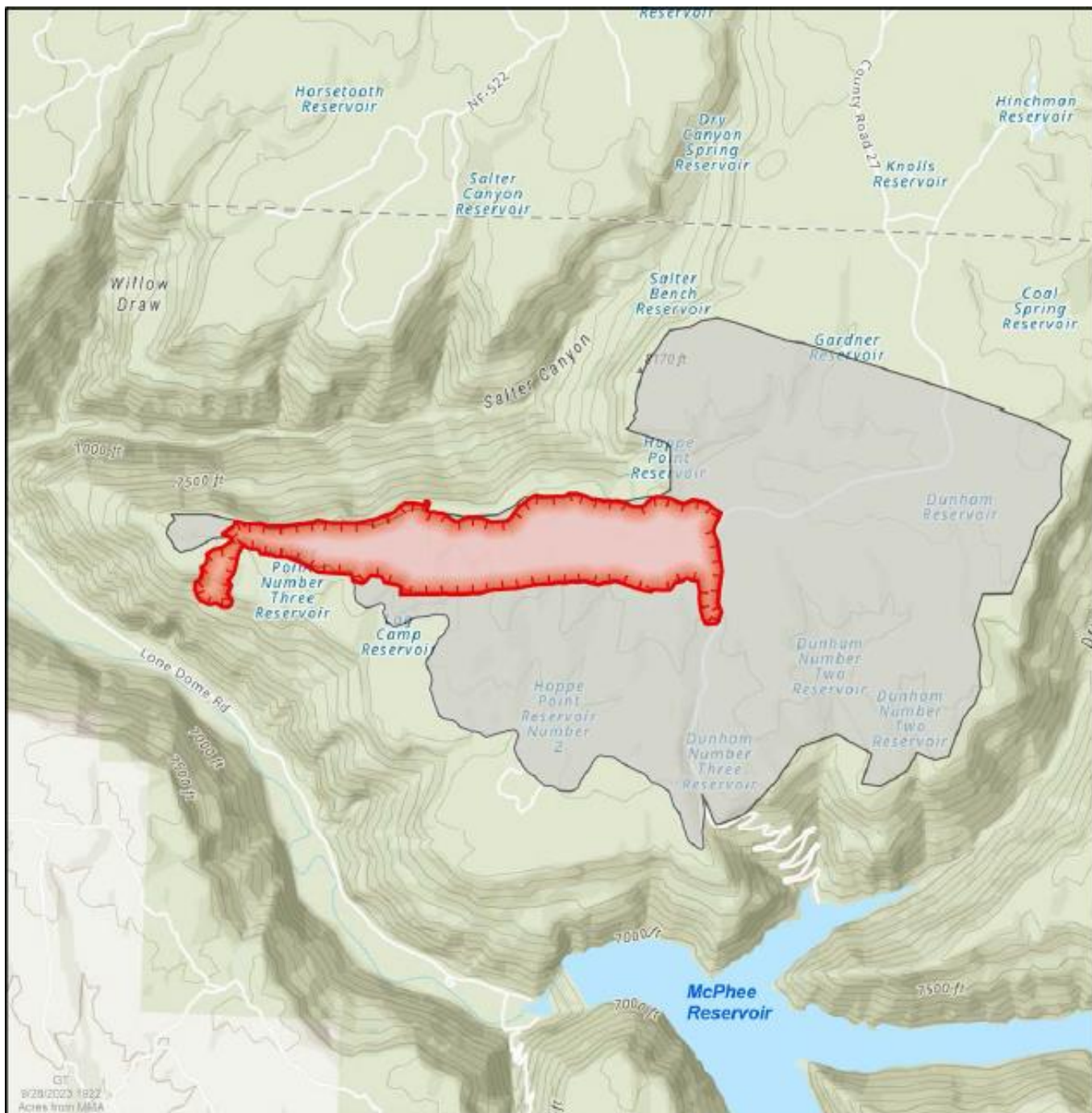
The location of the fire is within the boundaries of a pre-existing prescribed fire burn unit. Fire personnel have been working to prepare lines around the estimated 3,000-acre section. Firefighters are reinforcing and using previously defined and prepared control lines to allow this naturally caused wildfire to reduce forest fuels and improve forest health within those boundaries. This will decrease risk of future catastrophic wildfire, protect infrastructure and private lands, and improve forage for wildlife.

### **Current**

- Firefighters made good progress on Thursday with burnout operations to improve lines around the fire.
- Today, firefighters will continue firing operations to improve yesterday's work ahead of windy conditions this weekend. The public will continue to see increased smoke.
- Fire behavior is expected to remain active due to burnout operations.
- Firefighters continue to reinforce containment lines around the planning area to support fire suppression efforts.

### **Outlook**

- Winds and the chance of scattered showers are expected to increase over the weekend.
- Firefighters will look for opportunities to reinforce control lines through the weekend.





**Public Information**  
**Hope Fire**  
**CO-SJF-001052**  
**9/29/2023**

580 acres at 1527hrs 9/28/2023

- Hope Fire Perimeter
- Uncontained
- Fire Planning Area

0 0.25 0.5 1 1.5 2 Miles

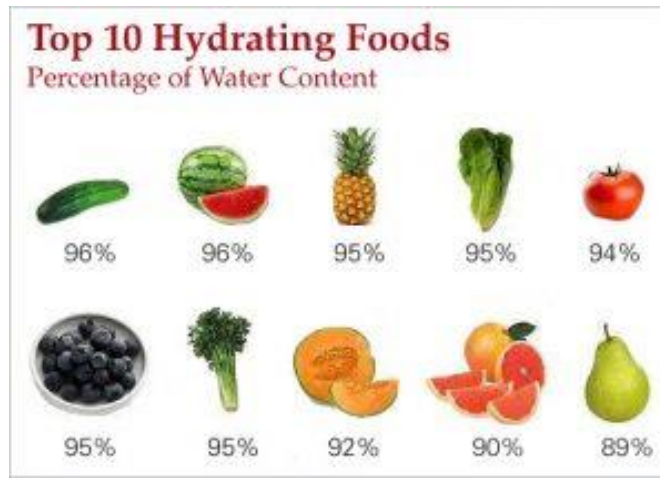


	<div>Durango Dispatch Fire Business Calculator - 2023</div> <div>DRC LOWER Fire Danger Rating Area - Forecast Weather &amp; NFDRS v4 Fire Danger</div> <div>Observed Indices 9/29/2023 15:00</div> <div>Stations: Nucla (053805), Chapin (055704), Mockingbird (055710), Mesa Mountain (055805)</div>						
Observed ERC-X Percentile	September 29	September 30	October 1	October 2	October 3	October 4	October 5
Observed BI-X Percentile	31	9	From Predicted				
	28	-3	From Predicted				
Max Temp (F)	79	80	80	72	68	67	69
Minimum RH (%)	14	15	16	22	27	27	25
Max Dewpoint (F)	37	39	49	43	45	42	41
Min Temp (F)	47	49	50	44	40	38	40
Max RH (%)	42	45	74	68	81	75	67
Windspeed (20'-mph)	13	25	33	20	14	12	12
Wind Direction (deg)	203	180	189	212	266	288	221
Wind Direction	SSW	S	S	SSW	W	WNW	SW
Lightning Activity Level	1	1	3	3	2	1	1
1-hr(%)	6.07	7.10	9.32	9.64	11.08	10.65	9.84
10-hr (%)	7.55	9.09	12.92	12.17	13.62	12.86	11.93
100-hr (%)	10.20	10.20	10.20	11.20	11.60	12.60	12.60
1000-hr(%)	13.20	12.60	12.40	12.40	12.80	12.80	12.80
ERC-X Percentile	31	18	8	7	5	6	7
BI-X Percentile	28	43	25	16	12	12	14
Staffing Level	2	2	1	1	1	1	1
Response Level	2	2	1	1	1	1	1
Adjective Fire Danger	Moderate	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low
Recommended Fire Restrictions	None	None	None	None	None	None	None
Severe Fire Danger Index	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low
FWZ 207 Fuels Critical?	No	No	No	No	No	No	No
FWZ 207 Red Flag Likely?	No	No	No	No	No	No	No



### **Safety and Security – Green**

- Law Enforcement: Normal Operations
- Search and Rescue: Normal Operations
- Fire Services: Normal Operations
- Community Safety: Stabilized.



**Food, Water and Shelter – Green**

- Food: Normal Operations.
- Agriculture: Normal Operations.
- Water: Normal Operations
- Shelter: Normal Operations



**Health and Medical - Green**

- Medical Care: Normal Operations.
- Patient Movement: Normal Operations.
- Public Health: Normal Operations
- Hospital: Normal Operations.
- EMS: Normal Operations.



### **Energy, Power and Fuel – Green**

- Power (Grid): Normal Operations.
- Fuel: Normal Operations.
- Natural Gas: Normal Operations.
- Propane: Normal Operations.
- CO2: Normal Operations.



### **Communications – Green**

- Alerts, Warnings, and Messages: Normal Operations
  - Nixle and Everbridge messages sent out on weather alerts, information and incidents as needed.
  - IPAWS tested on 9/25/23 on the new Alert and Warning System.
  - Changing our Alert and Warning System from Nixle to Everbridge on October 15<sup>th</sup>.

- Federal Alert will be performed on October 4, 2023 at 12:20PM broadcasting on all wireless phone devices. This is a federal system and Montezuma County has no control over this alert and is not the entity performing this alert. Please do not call our Communications Center. From their website: ***“At 2:20 p.m., (12:20 our time) the federal government will test its nationwide Emergency Alert System and Wireless Emergency Alerts. The purpose is to ensure that the systems continue to be an effective means of warning the public about national emergencies. Cell towers will broadcast the test for approximately 30 minutes. All wireless phones should receive the message only once. People with cell phones will get a message that reads: “THIS IS A TEST of the National Wireless Emergency Alert System. No action is needed. To help ensure that these alerts are accessible to the entire public, including people with disabilities, the alerts are accompanied by a unique tone and vibration.”***
- 911 Dispatch: Normal Operations.
- Responder Communications: Normal Operations.
- Finance Services: Normal Operations.
- Public Information: Normal Operations.
- Infrastructure: Normal Operations.
- Cybersecurity Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA) performed an assessment on 4 county building on 9/11/23. Looking at capabilities and gaps in our security infrastructure.



### **Transportation- Green**

- Transit: Normal operations.
  - Road N closed on 5/30/23 between Rd 21 and Rd 22 for Alkali Creek Bridge Replacement. Girders and abutments were installed this month. The project is three weeks ahead of schedule. **Completion estimated by mid-November.**
- Railway: None

- Aviation: Normal operations.
- Maritime: Normal operations.
- Airport: Normal operations.



### **Hazardous Materials - Green**

- Facilities: Normal Operations.
- Hazmat, Pollutants, and Contaminants: Normal Operations.



### ***STATE LIFE LINES***

#### **State Emergency Operations Center (SEOC) Status Level 3**

SEOC continues to support of the following: Migrant sheltering support in Denver, Marshall Fire recovery, HPAI. SEOC is operational Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

## **Disaster Declaration DR4731 June Severe Storms, Flooding and Tornadoes Incident**

- September 22 Colorado DHSEM requested that four counties be added to the disaster declaration, including:
  - Baca
  - Kiowa
  - Prowers
  - Teller
- On [September 22 Governor Polis issued an executive order](#) to include Jefferson, Baca, Kiowa, Prowers and Teller counties in the state disaster emergency declared due to extreme weather in June 2023.
  - Colorado DHSEM continues to work with Jefferson County to determine if damages are eligible for inclusion.
- August 25, 2023 President Biden approved Colorado's disaster declaration request and it is formally known as [DR4731](#).
- Public Assistance Grant application deadline is Friday, September 22. All applicant briefings have been completed for the approved counties.
- Public Assistance Grant Program approved for the following counties:
  - Cheyenne
  - Douglas
  - Elbert
  - El Paso
  - Kit Carson
  - Lincoln
- Colorado DHSEM will ask FEMA to add additional counties that qualify.
- Information available on the [Colorado DHSEM Recovery website for DR4731](#).
- Press releases related to DR4731 approval:
  - [White House: President Joseph R. Biden, Jr. Approves Colorado Disaster Declaration](#)
  - [FEMA: President Joseph R. Biden, Jr. Approves Disaster Declaration for Colorado](#)
  - [State of Colorado: Governor Polis Releases Statement on White House Disaster Declaration](#)

## **Migrant Support**

Information links for Denver area migrant support.

- [Migrant Support in Denver Overview Webpage](#)
- [Denver Dashboard for Migrant Support](#)
- [Donations Information for Denver Migrant Support](#)

## **Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (HPAI): SEOC Activation**

The Colorado Department of Agriculture (CDA) and USDA are coordinating the state response to HPAI cases in the state. Use the CDA website and map for resources and information updates. A situation report will be posted on the CDA HPAI webpage each Friday.



## ***EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT***

### **Community Intervention Program (CIP):**

- We began a new Behavioral Health Grant 2023-2024 on July 1<sup>st</sup>.
- We were awarded \$361,000 in the FY 2023 Congressional Directive Spending Projects Grant for a year beginning October 1<sup>st</sup>. We will begin using this grant when the approved award is issued.
- Current balance in reserves from ARPA funding from the Municipalities and the County was increased to \$ 136,904 from the sale of the old vehicle.
- Currently staffed with two EMTs and two Behavioral Health Specialists. Operational 7 days a week.

### **Emergency Management Performance Grant (EMPG):**

- 2023 Grant was officially awarded 9/14/23 for \$25,656
- 2023 grant 1<sup>st</sup> Qtr. was submitted, waiting for payment.
- 2023 grant 2<sup>nd</sup> Qtr. was submitted 7/17/23, waiting for payment.
- 2023 grant 3<sup>rd</sup> Qtr. will be submitted 10/15/23

### **Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP):**

- County generators grant project was submitted and approved by the State in December, 2022 for the 4 remaining generators requested for County buildings. Coroners Building, Annex 1, Annex 3, and the Fairgrounds. Grant will pay 90% of the cost. Grant request \$170,486.40 was submitted Dec 2022. County 10% capital cost is \$17,048.64 for three-year project. FEMA corresponded on 7/13/23 with questions and we responded. Awaiting final FEMA approval award. Because of

federal funding cuts within FEMA, we are on a holding pattern for this funding until further notice.

- The County will update the Hazard Mitigation Plan beginning in June of 2024 with a completion date of December 2025. This occurs every 5 years. The Grant Notice of Intent (NOI) was submitted for \$50,000.
- Wildfire mitigation, CWPP and HMP meeting was held with subject matter experts this month to discuss the mitigation objectives in each plan to begin updating them.

**Local Emergency Planning Committee (From LEPC Chair):**

- No updates

**Memo of Understanding (MOU):**

- Omnibus agreement (MOU) for County and Municipalities is under review by attorney and Administrator to present to the BOCC.

**Public Information Coordinator (PIO):**

- Working to promote the new Everbridge Emergency Alert System through press releases, media interviews, flyers, and personal demonstrations, as well as normal, daily duties.

**Search and Rescue (SAR)**

- Multiple missions over the last month for an overdue boater, hiker, and hunter. Anticipating more throughout hunting season. Assisted in a recovery for the Sheriff's Office. Continuing to train as always.

**Southwest All Hazards Advisory Council (SWAHAC):**

- Council waiting on approval from the State on the 2023-2024 Grant proposal. Sometime in October before we receive an award.

**Training and Exercise Plan (TEP) and Intergraded Preparedness Plan (IPP):**

- New 3-year plans for 2024-2026 for the County have been submitted to the state and approved.
- Beginning the process to update both plans.

**Training/Drills:**

- September 13, 2023 from 0800 to 1200 hours we had an Airport Functional Exercise involving 12 agencies and 24 responders. The exercise involved an aircraft crash off airport property.
- September 15, 2023 from 0800 to 1200 hours we had a Hospital Functional Exercise testing the Hospital's capabilities on a medical surge.
- Colorado Incident Management Team Conference was held in Grand Junction on September 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup>. Four County EOC Staff Members attended.

- November 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> the EM will be holding two ICS 100/700/800 8-hour classes each for County employees at Road & Bridge.
- November 14<sup>th</sup> – 16<sup>th</sup> ICS 300 class will be offered by the SW Emergency Management Instructor Team. The training will be held at the Southern Ute Indian Tribe. A flyer will be sent out as soon as it is available.
- Everbridge final preparations are being completed. Marketing has begun for residents to sign-up for the new alert system. **See below information sheet on why and how-to sign-up.** Once we are all familiar with the new Alert and Warning platform, we will switch over to the system. Estimated switch will be October 15, 2023.



After recent local problems with the Nixle system, as well as the widely publicized issues with the alert and notification systems during fires in Boulder County and Maui, Montezuma County has launched a new Emergency Alert System. This new system will allow you to receive emergency alerts for severe weather, road closures, evacuations, missing persons, and more.

This is a more reliable and accurate system, which allows us to tailor alerts to specific neighborhoods or groups of people who face an imminent threat rather than a notification to the entire county.

This is an "opt-in" system. You choose what kinds of messages that you want to receive, as well as how and when you receive them.

When you sign up, you will have the option to receive alerts via cell phone call, text message, email, or all of the above. You subscribe to the notifications you want to receive based on your location.

The information you provide is protected and will not be used for any other purpose.

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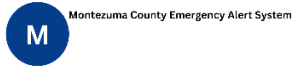
**To sign up- You can either download the app and or sign up online. Either way, you will still receive the same emergency messages. You do not have to download the app.**

If you choose to download the app, from your app store look for this one:



Everbridge  
Everbridge Inc.

- When you reach the “find an organization” page, search for “Montezuma County”.



Or

(Do not choose the one with the Sheriff's Office logo. That is the old Nixle alert system.)

- Create a new login with your own password.
- For "Location name" you can set up multiple locations and name them as you choose (think Home, Work, etc). Be sure to click on "Done" in the top right hand corner when you are finished adding locations.
- On the "Profile" page make sure to add a cell phone if you would like to receive text messages and email address if you want to receive email messages.
- Expand the Weather tab and click on any additional alerts you want.
  - You will receive severe weather warnings automatically.
  - You will also automatically receive messages regarding road closures, evacuations, missing persons, or other emergency alerts deemed necessary by local law enforcement.
  - You may enable "quiet hours" when you will not receive weather alerts.

Don't forget to update your profile if your contact information changes. If you no longer want to receive alerts, remove your contact information from your profile.

longer



**To sign up online-** click here: <https://member.everbridge.net/index/337829242601830>  
or scan the QR code.

- Click on "**sign up.**" You are creating a new account. Do not use your user name and password from your old Nixle account.
- Complete the information on all tabs.
- For "Location name" think Home, Work, etc. You can add additional locations after saving your contact information.
- For Contact Information please list all the ways that you would like to receive messages. Email, cell text, and/or cell call.
- Expand the Weather tab and click on any additional alerts you want.
  - You will receive severe weather warnings automatically.
  - You will also automatically receive messages regarding road closures, evacuations, missing persons, or other emergency alerts as deemed necessary by local law enforcement.
  - You may enable "quiet hours" when you do not wish receive weather alerts.
- Review your information and click "finish."

Don't forget to update your profile if your contact information changes. If you no longer want to receive alerts, remove your contact information from your profile.

**Signing up is simple but if you need assistance, please call  
970-564-4998. Do not call dispatch for help signing up for the new Montezuma  
County Emergency Alert System.**

END OF REPORT