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Cycle of Warning: Alert Origination



Homeland
Security

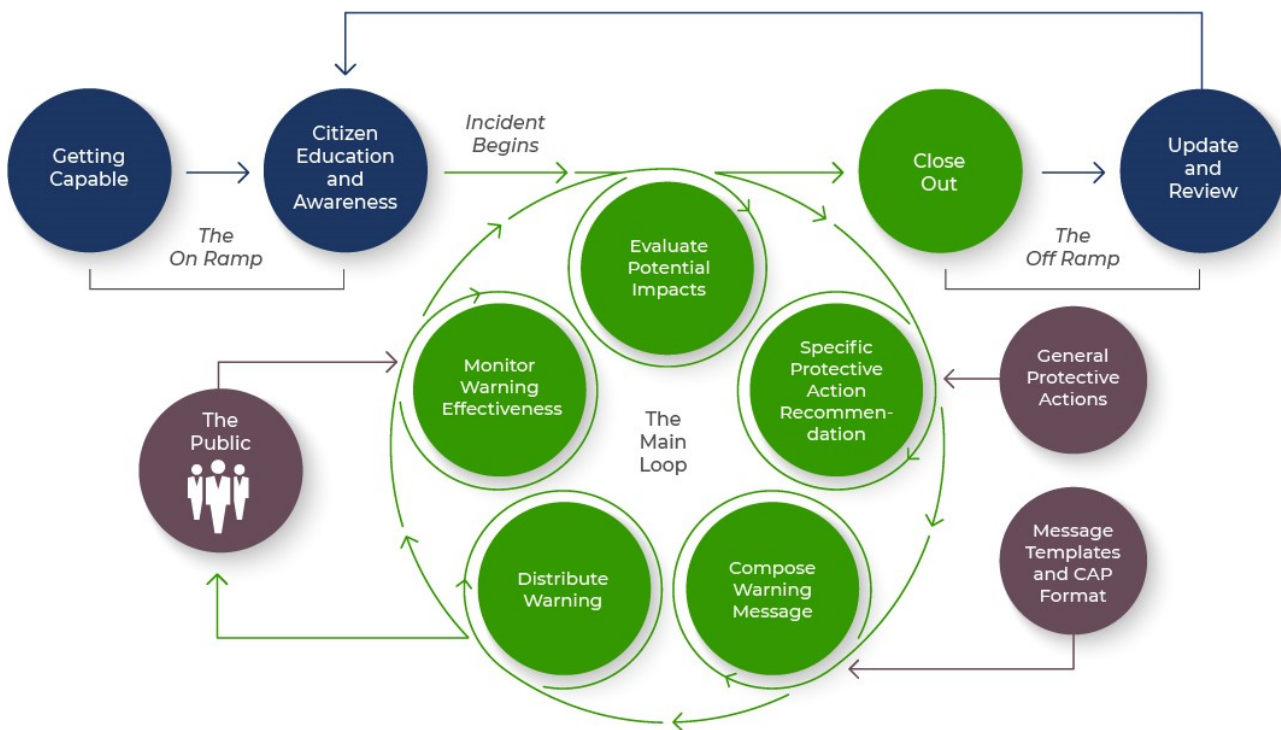
Science and Technology

A NATIONAL NEED

The Department of Homeland Security (DHS) Science and Technology Directorate (S&T) released a Report on Alerting Tactics and outlined recommendations of effective combinations of alerting tactics for various incident types. These recommendations were based upon lessons learned from public safety, alert originator, and academic practitioners that resulted in identifying the need for national level Alerts, Warnings, and Notifications (AWN) guidance. To address this stakeholder-driven requirement, a DHS S&T AWN Working Group was convened that comprised of a nationwide group of alerting subject matter experts (SMEs) who were tasked with advising the development of the AWN Guidance Materials. The alerting SMEs met monthly for seven months to develop the Cycle of Warning: Alert Origination graphic and supporting text.

THE CYCLE OF WARNING: ALERT ORIGATION

The purpose of the Cycles of Warning: Alert Origination is to outline the full ecosystem of an AWN from the perspectives of an alert originator and help reduce the amount of time that people delay taking a protective action. The cycle graphic and supporting text provide simple, easy to understand, step-by-step details of what happens when an incident occurs and an AWN is sent to the public. The cycle begins with the On Ramp and Getting Capable (in blue). As an incident begins, alert originators enter the Main Loop (in green) and begin the process of distributing a warning message. The outside circles (in plum) represent factors that should be kept in mind throughout the process. After the incident ends, it is important to Close Out and perform updates and reviews. It is recommended that these educational materials are used to help alert originators better understand, enhance, and streamline AWN operations now and in the future.



Please note, steps in the cycle can happen concurrently or multiple times throughout the alert origination process.

