PRESS RELEASE WHITE COUNTY EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT FEBRUARY 14, 2019

David L. Murphy, Jr. Director

White County Encourages Resident to Register for Code RED Weather Warnings

WHITE COUNTY GA, February 14, 2019 – White County includes Weather Warnings within the Code RED system in order to provide residents and businesses with automated severe weather alerts. The opt-in service will automatically notify those registered of tornado, flash flood and severe thunderstorm warnings just moments after an alert has been issued by The National Weather Service (NWS).

To receive severe weather warnings, residents and businesses must first visit White Counties Emergency Notification enrollment page at <u>www.whitecounty.net</u>. Individuals are encouraged to enter both a cell phone number and email address as well as to select the types of weather warnings they wish to receive.

David Murphy White County Public Safety Director encourages all citizens to enroll to receive CodeRED Weather Warnings. "The Code RED system provides our community with numerous benefits; we use it to keep our residents informed by issuing general and emergency related messages. Now, Code RED Weather Warning is an additional tool we will use to help keep our citizens safe and to provide them with additional time to prepare during severe weather events," Murphy said.

The system's advanced technology is designed to quickly notify residents in the direct path of projected weather as issued by the National Weather Service, to help eliminate false alarms. "This is a valuable feature as those citizens who do receive an alert, will be able to take immediate protective actions," Murphy said. "CodeRED Weather Warning will keep our community prepared if severe weather strikes; therefore, it's vital that all residents enroll to receive alerts or to update their information within the database if they have recently moved or changed contact information."

CBS Evening News, among other news outlets and other public safety agencies across the country, have successfully credited Code RED Weather Warning notifications for potentially saving lives by delivering notifications to those impacted well ahead of the storm. The severe weather alert service comes as an enhancement to the counties current Code RED system, which informs citizens of time sensitive information that may impact their overall safety and wellbeing.

For more information concerning this valuable tool or emergency preparedness measures, contact White County EMA at 706-865-9500 or visit the website at <u>www.whitecounty.net</u>