

Ravalli County Sheriff's Office  
205 Bedford Street, Suite G  
Hamilton, MT 59840



Stephen Holton, Sheriff

Travis McElderry, Undersheriff

## **PRESS RELEASE**

January 8, 2020

Ravalli County Selects Hyper-Reach to provide their Community Emergency Notification System

Ravalli County Sheriff Steve Holton announced Ravalli County has recently selected Hyper-Reach as its new mass emergency notification system. The Hyper-Reach system has replaced AlertSense, which had been in operation with Ravalli County since 2016. Hyper-Reach is a state of the art mass emergency notification system designed specifically for public safety.

Ravalli County will use their Hyper-Reach system to provide rapid notifications of hazardous or urgent situations, such as severe weather, fires, flooding, evacuations, road closures, criminal activity, and other community alerts. Community members may select a variety of contact methods to receive notifications, including text message, email, telephone calls, and even TTY/TDD service for the hearing impaired. In addition, the system can send broadcast messages to most current mobile telephones (manufactured since 2011) in an affected area by providing access to FEMA's Wireless Emergency Alert (WEA) system.

"Our job is to protect the citizens of Ravalli County as effectively and efficiently as possible," said Erik Hoover, Director of Emergency Management for Ravalli County. "We evaluated a number of providers of emergency notification systems, and Hyper-Reach gave us the solution we needed."

Those who had previously registered with AlertSense will need to register with Hyper-Reach to ensure they receive notifications. Landline phones in Ravalli County are automatically registered for urgent emergency alerts, but community and weather alerts to mobile phones and email addresses are only included by enrolling in the system.

Community members are encouraged to enroll in the Hyper-Reach system by visiting the website

<http://hyper-reach.com/mtravallisignup.html>

or by calling (406) 215-1909. Information and links are also available on the Ravalli County website and links button on the Ravalli County Sheriff app for smart devices. Additionally, the free Hyper-Reach Anywhere smartphone app is available, which allows individuals to manage and monitor the alerts they receive, both for their home and office addresses and for other addresses they care about such as relatives or friends.

“We’re honored to have been selected by Ravalli County to provide its emergency alerts,” said Sam Asher, President of Hyper-Reach. “It’s gratifying to be part of an effort to save lives and protect property and we take that responsibility very seriously.”

Sheriff Holton added, "Office of Emergency Management Director Erik Hoover put an incredible amount of effort into choosing the right emergency notification system for us, and I appreciate his effort. We are very excited to upgrade our notification system with Hyper-Reach". Sheriff Holton also stressed the importance of citizens taking the time to sign up with Hyper-Reach to maximize its effectiveness.

###