

THE NATIONWIDE EAS TEST IS COMING — NOVEMBER 17, 2026, BUT THERE ARE OTHER IMPORTANT DATES: THE FIRST IS OCTOBER 30, 2026 WHEN YOU MUST FILE YOUR FORM ONE.

This year's nationwide EAS test will be **CAP-only**. It will **not** be delivered off-air by your LP-1, LP-2, or any other local monitor source. It will **not** be delivered by a PEP station. It will **not** be delivered through the daisy-chain.

The test will be delivered **exclusively through IPAWS**, over the **internet**, using **CAP**.

If your EAS unit cannot decode CAP, validate the new IPAWS certificates, or parse the updated CAP XML, **you will not receive the test**.

If you cannot receive the test, **you cannot retransmit it**. If you cannot retransmit it, **you cannot file Form Two correctly**. If you cannot file Form Two correctly, **you will be flagged by the FCC**.

This is the most consequential nationwide test since CAP became mandatory in 2012.

And yes — a large percentage of stations will not be ready.

HERE IT COMES — AND MANY STATIONS MAY NOT BE READY

The FCC is not easing into this. FEMA is not easing into this. IPAWS is not easing into this.

The November 17 test is designed to expose:

- outdated firmware
- obsolete hardware
- broken IPAWS connections
- stations that “monitor LP-1 only”
- stations that “haven’t updated since 2019”
- stations that “don’t know what box they have”
- stations that “don’t have an engineer”
- stations that “hope last year’s settings still work”

This test will reveal every weak link.

YOU BETTER BE READY — WHAT “READY” ACTUALLY MEANS

“Ready” does **NOT** mean:

- “We have an EAS box.”
- “We passed last year.”
- “We monitor our LP-1.”
- “We think it works.”
- “We haven’t touched it since installation.”
- “We’ll file Form One like last time.”

None of those matter. “Ready” means:

- ✓ **Your EAS unit is connected to the internet**
- ✓ **Your firmware is current**
- ✓ **Your IPAWS certificate bundle is current**
- ✓ **Your IPAWS URL is correct**
- ✓ **Your CAP polling is active**
- ✓ **Your CAP logs show successful reception**
- ✓ **You can decode CAP**
- ✓ **You can authenticate CAP**
- ✓ **You can retransmit CAP**
- ✓ **You can file Form Two truthfully**

If any one of these is missing, **YOU ARE NOT READY.**

MANDATORY FCC DEADLINES (ETRS)

Form One

Due October 30, 2026 Stations must certify:

- EAS equipment model
- Firmware version
- CAP capability
- Monitoring assignments
- IPAWS reception capability

This is where many stations will fail. A large percentage of owners do not know:

- what box they have,
- what firmware it’s running,
- whether it can decode CAP,
- whether it’s connected to the internet,
- whether it can authenticate IPAWS certificates.

WHAT HAPPENS IF YOU ARE NOT READY — OR CANNOT BE READY

- ✗ You will not receive the test**
- ✗ You will not retransmit the test**
- ✗ You will not be able to file Form Two correctly**
- ✗ You will be flagged in ETRS**
- ✗ You may receive a follow-up inquiry**
- ✗ You may be required to demonstrate CAP compliance.**
- ✗ You may be required to upgrade hardware**
- ✗ You may be cited for non-compliance**
- ✗ You may face fines**
- ✗ You may face license renewal complications**

MANUFACTURER FIRMWARE UPDATE LINKS

Sage ENDEC

Firmware Version 95 and certificate bundle

<https://www.sagealertingsystems.com/support.html> ([sagealertingsystems.com in Bing](#))

DASDEC / Monroe Electronics

v4.x / v5.x firmware and certificate updates <https://www.monroe-electronics.com/support>

Gorman-Redlich

Firmware updates and CAP module information <https://www.gorman-redlich.com/eas.html>

Trilithic (Legacy)

Trilithic EAS units are obsolete and cannot meet current CAP/IPAWS requirements.
Replacement required.



HOW TO VERIFY IPAWS CONNECTIVITY

Stations must confirm:

- The IPAWS URL is correct
- The TLS certificate chain is valid
- The CAP polling interval is active
- The EAS unit logs successful CAP polls

Manufacturers provide:

- CAP test messages
- Certificate validation tools
- Connectivity diagnostics



HOW TO CHECK YOUR FIRMWARE VERSION

Sage

Front panel → Menu → Version Web interface → “Status” page

DASDEC

Web interface → System → Firmware

Gorman-Redlich

Front panel → Firmware Manual check required for CAP module

If your firmware is older than **2023**, assume you are **not compliant**.