

From the Desk of
Gray Stallworth
CEO
Greenwood Family YMCA



Evacuations and such....

As recent as Monday November 30, our YMCA had to be evacuated due to a fire alarm. It's not the first time and I imagine it won't be the last.

There have been questions about our procedures during such an event. I want to address that as best as I can in this note.

For everyone's safety, when our alarm system activates, our staff have been trained to completely evacuate our building. The Northwest Volunteer Fire Department is close by and responds to a call from our system monitors through our local 911.

Even when it has been determined that the alarm is a false alarm, we must wait for the fire department to arrive, check our building, allow the system to be reset and get an all-clear before we can occupy the facility again.

Thanks to the volunteer fire fighters who help protect us in our community. We appreciate what you do! Thank you Northwest Volunteer Fire Department for taking good care of us at the YMCA.

As was the case Monday night, it took some time for all of those steps to be accomplished. It is not our wish to have members stand in the rain, or in any way to inconvenience you; however your cooperation is paramount. We are expected to clear the building and we need everyone to assist us in achieving this. It is also for everyone's safety to follow the instructions of the fire department officials. As soon as we receive an all-clear, we will allow our members, and program participants to re-enter the facility.

My thanks to all of those staff for responding to the alarm as they did on Monday. Also thanks to the members who calmly and with order evacuated the facility!