



NOAA

Weather Radio

...the voice of the
NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
National Weather Service

May 1999



Take a Tip From MARK TRAIL...

NOAA Weather Radio broadcasts National Weather Service warnings, watches, forecasts and other hazard information 24 hours a day. Known as the *"voice of the National Weather Service,"* NOAA Weather Radio is provided as a public service by the Department of Commerce's National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

The NOAA Weather Radio network has more than 425 stations in the 50 states and near adjacent coastal waters, Puerto Rico, the U.S. Virgin Islands and U.S. Pacific Territories.

What's the weather? Thanks to NOAA Weather Radio, you'll always have the answer to that question and access to potentially life-saving emergency information whenever you need it.

When you purchase a NOAA Weather Radio receiver, you are purchasing part of the National Weather Service network. The network is constantly upgrading its technology to provide the best weather reporting service possible for the nation.

For less than the cost of a new pair of shoes, you can own a special weather radio that provides instant access to the same weather reports and emergency information that meteorologists and emergency personnel use—information that can save your life!

GET THE INFORMATION
YOU NEED...24 HOURS A
DAY... GET A NOAA
WEATHER RADIO!

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Legendary comic strip character Mark Trail, the official spokesperson for NOAA Weather Radio, has taught generations of Americans about life in the outdoors. The strip, syndicated by King Features in 175 newspapers nationwide, is written and drawn by Jack Elrod.

"ALL HAZARDS" capabilities

NOAA Weather Radio now broadcasts warning and post-event information for all types of hazards—both natural (such as earthquakes and volcano activity) and technological (such as chemical releases or oil spills). Working with other Federal agencies and the Federal Communications Commission's new Emergency Alert System, NOAA Weather Radio is an **"all hazards"** radio network, making it the single source for the most comprehensive weather and emergency information available to the public.

SECONDS SAVE LIVES!



Weather radios equipped with a special alarm tone feature can sound an alert and give you immediate information about a life-threatening situation. During an emergency, National Weather Service forecasters will interrupt routine weather radio programming and send out the special tone that activates weather radios in the listening area. The hearing- and visually impaired also can get these warnings by connecting weather radios with alarm tones to other kinds of attention-getting devices like strobe lights, pagers, bed-shakers, personal computers and text printers.

Who Needs NOAA Weather Radio?

Public safety experts agree: the receivers should be standard equipment in every home. They are especially valuable in places that are entrusted with public safety, including hospitals, schools, places of worship, nursing homes, restaurants, grocery stores, recreation centers, office buildings, sports facilities, theaters, retail stores, bus and train stations, airports, marinas and other public-gathering places.

Where Can I Purchase a NOAA Weather Radio?

Check with stores that sell electronics, or call the National Weather Service office closest to you. More information is available through the Internet at the National Weather Service's NOAA Weather Radio Web Site—<http://www.nws.noaa.gov/nwr>

NOAA Weather Radio...Improving For the Future

Additional NOAA Weather Radio transmitters will continue to expand the nationwide network coverage to more rural areas. With new digital technology, life-saving messages broadcast on NOAA Weather Radio will now be targeted to a specific area, like a county or portion of a state, to bring more hazard-specific information to the listening area. Additional digital technology will provide automated broadcast capability for more timely service. Digital technology also allows these messages to be automatically received by all the communications industries of the information superhighway—broadcast, cable, satellites and other media—through the Federal Communications Commission's Emergency Alert System.

“Our goal is to someday have a NOAA Weather Radio in every home, just like a smoke detector, and in all schools, hospitals and other public gathering places. NOAA Weather Radio gives people the kind of information they need to safeguard themselves and their home before, during and after a disaster.”

*Director
National Weather Service*

Receivers to Fit Different Needs

Weather radios come in many sizes and with a variety of functions and costs. Many of the radios sound a *tone alarm* and/or turn on the audio when severe weather announcements or emergency information are broadcast. To make use of the new digital coding technology, more sophisticated weather radio receivers will be required. Most NOAA Weather Radio receivers are either battery-operated portables or AC-powered desktop models with battery backup so they can be used in many different situations. Some CB radios, scanners, short wave and AM/FM radios are capable of receiving NOAA Weather Radio transmissions. Many communities throughout the United States also make Weather Radio available on cable TV and broadcast television's secondary audio programming channels.



Expansion Through Partnerships

The goal of the National Weather Service and other emergency preparedness agencies is to expand the reach of weather radio broadcasts to 95 percent of the U.S. population. Innovative partnerships between the Weather Service, private sector organizations and state and local governments are fueling this expansion. For more information about developing a partnership with the National Weather Service, contact your local Weather Service office.



NOAA WEATHER RADIO

...the Voice of the National Weather Service

Alabama

ANNISTON	162.475
AUBURN	162.525
BIRMINGHAM	162.550
CULLMAN	162.450
DEMOPOLIS/LINDEN	162.475
DOZIER	162.550
FLORENCE	162.475
FORT PAYNE	162.500
HUNTSVILLE	162.400
JACKSON	162.500
LOUISVILLE	162.475
MOBILE	162.550
MONTGOMERY	162.400
TUSCALOOSA	162.400
WINFIELD	162.525

Alaska

ANCHORAGE	162.550
CORDOVA	162.400
CRAIG	162.475
FAIRBANKS	162.550
HAINES	162.400
HOMER	162.400
JUNEAU	162.550
KETCHIKAN	162.550
KODI	162.550
NOME	162.550
SEWARD	162.550
SITKA	162.550
SOLDOTNA	162.475
VALDEZ	162.550
WRANGELL	162.400
YAKUTAT	162.400

Arizona

FLAGSTAFF	162.400
GILA COUNTY NORTH	162.425
GILA COUNTY SOUTH	162.500
GRAND CANYON (Hopi Point)	162.475
PHOENIX	162.550
PRESCOTT	162.525
SHOW LOW (Porter Mt.)	162.400
TUCSON	162.400
WINDOW ROCK	162.550
YUMA	162.550

Arkansas

FAYETTEVILLE	162.475
FORT SMITH	162.550
GURDON	162.475
JONESBORO	162.550
LITTLE ROCK	162.550
MOUNTAIN VIEW	162.450
RUSSELLVILLE	162.525
STAR CITY	162.400
TEXARKANA	162.550
YELLVILLE	162.500

California

BAKERSFIELD	162.550
COACHELLA	162.400
EUREKA	162.400
FRESNO	162.400
GRASS VALLEY (Wolf Mt.)	162.400
LOS ANGELES	162.550
MONTEREY	162.550
PT. ARENA/UKIAH	162.550
REDDING	162.550
SACRAMENTO	162.400
SAN DIEGO	162.400
SAN FRANCISCO	162.400
SAN LUIS OBISPO	162.550
SANTA ANA	162.450
SANTA BARBARA	162.400

SANTA BARBARA MARINE	162.475
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Colorado

ALAMOSA	162.475
BETHUNE	162.525
COLORADO SPRINGS	162.475
DENVER	162.550
FORT COLLINS	162.450
FOWLER	162.425
GLENWOOD SPRINGS	162.500
GRAND JUNCTION	162.550
GREELEY	162.400
LA JUNTA	162.500
MEAD/LONGMONT	162.475
PUEBLO	162.400
STERLING	162.400

Connecticut

HARTFORD	162.475
MERIDEN	162.400
NEW LONDON	162.550

Delaware

LEWES	162.550
SALISBURY, MD	162.475

Florida

BELLE GLADE	162.400
BETHLEHEM	162.450
DAYTONA BEACH	162.400
EAST POINT	162.500
FORT MYERS	162.475
FORT PIERCE	162.425
GAINESVILLE	162.475
INVERNESS	162.400
JACKSONVILLE	162.550
KEY WEST	162.400
LIVE OAK	162.450
MELBOURNE	162.550
MIAMI	162.550
NAPLES	162.525
OCALA	162.525
ORLANDO	162.475
PANAMA CITY	162.550
PENSACOLA	162.400
SALEM	162.425
SEBRING	162.500
TALLAHASSEE	162.400
TAMPA	162.550
VENICE	162.400
WEST PALM BEACH	162.475

Georgia

ATHENS	162.400
ATLANTA	162.550
AUGUSTA	162.550
BAXLEY	162.525
BUCHANAN	162.425
CHATSWORTH	162.400
COLUMBUS	162.400
MACON	162.475
PELHAM	162.550
SAVANNAH	162.400
VALDOSTA	162.500
WAYCROSS	162.475
WAYNESBORO	162.425

Hawaii

HAWAII (South Point)	162.550
HAWAII (Kulani Cone)	162.550
KANE OHE (Puu Hawaiioloa)	162.400
KAUAI (Kokee)	162.400
MAUI (Mt. Haleakala)	162.400
OAHU (Mt. Kaala)	162.550
OAHU (Hawaii Kai)	162.400

Idaho

BOISE	162.550
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BONNERS FERRY	162.500
LEWISTON	162.550
McCALL	162.475
POCATELLO	162.550
TWIN FALLS	162.400

Illinois

CHAMPAIGN	162.550
CHICAGO	162.550
MARION	162.425
PEORIA	162.475
ROCK ISLAND/MOLINE	162.550
ROCKFORD	162.475
SPRINGFIELD	162.400

Indiana

BLOOMINGTON	162.400
EDWARDSPORT	162.425
EVANSVILLE	162.550
FORT WAYNE	162.550
GEORGIA	162.550
INDIANAPOLIS	162.550
LAFAYETTE (Yeoman)	162.475
MARION	162.450
NORTH WEBSTER	162.450
PUTNAMVILLE	162.400
SEYMOUR	162.525
SOUTH BEND	162.400

Iowa

CEDAR RAPIDS	162.475
DES MOINES	162.550
DUBUQUE	162.400
SIoux CITY	162.475
WATERLOO	162.550

Kansas

CHANUTE	162.400
COLBY/GOODLAND	162.475
CONCORDIA	162.550
DODGE CITY	162.475
ELLSWORTH	162.400
LENORA	162.425
TOPEKA	162.475
TRIBUNE	162.550
WICHITA	162.550

Kentucky

ASHLAND	162.550
BEATTYVILLE	162.500
BOWLING GREEN	162.400
COVINGTON	162.550
ELIZABETHTOWN	162.550
FRENCHBURG	162.475
HARLAN	162.450
HAZARD	162.475
LEXINGTON	162.400
LONDON	162.475
LOUISVILLE	162.475
MANCHESTER	162.400
MAYFIELD	162.475
MC KEE	162.450
MONTICELLO	162.425
MOREHEAD	162.425
MT. VERNON	162.425
JACKSON	162.425
PAINTSVILLE	162.525
PHELPS	162.500
PIKEVILLE	162.400
PINEVILLE	162.525
RICHMOND	162.525
SOMERSET	162.550
STANTON	162.550
WEST LIBERTY	162.450
WILLIAMSBURG	162.500

Louisiana

ALEXANDRIA	162.475
BATON ROUGE	162.400

BURAS	162.475
LAFAYETTE	162.550
LAKE CHARLES	162.400
MONROE	162.550
MORGAN CITY	162.475
NEW ORLEANS	162.550
SHREVEPORT	162.400

Maine

CARIBOU	162.525
DRESDEN	162.475
ELLSWORTH	162.400
FALMOUTH	162.550

Mariana Islands

GUAM (Nimitz Hill)	162.400
SAIPAN (Mt. Tapotchau)	162.550

Maryland

BALTIMORE	162.400
HAGERSTOWN	162.475

Massachusetts

BOSTON	162.475
HYANNIS (Camp Edwards)	162.550
MT. GREYLOCK	162.525
WORCESTER	162.550

Michigan

ALPENA	162.550
DETROIT	162.550
FLINT	162.475
GAYLORD	162.500
GRAND RAPIDS	162.550
HESPERIA	162.475
HOUGHTON	162.400
MARQUETTE	162.550
ONONDAGA	162.400
OSHTEMO	162.475
SAULT STE MARIE	162.550
TRAVERSE CITY	162.400

Minnesota

BEMIDJI	162.425
DETROIT LAKES	162.400
DULUTH	162.550
INTERNATIONAL FALLS	162.550
MANKATO	162.400
MINNEAPOLIS/ ST. PAUL	162.550
PARK RAPIDS	162.475
ROCHESTER	162.475
ROOSEVELT	162.450
ST. CLOUD	162.400
THIEF RIVER FALLS	162.550
WILLMAR	162.475

Mississippi

ACKERMAN	162.475
BOONEVILLE	162.550
BUDE	162.550
COLUMBIA	162.400
GULFPORT	162.400
HATTIESBURG	162.475
INVERNESS	162.550
JACKSON	162.400
KOSCIUSKO	162.425
MERIDIAN	162.550
OXFORD	162.400
PARCHMAN	162.500

Missouri

BOURBON	162.525
CAMDENTON	162.550
COLUMBIA	162.400
DONIPHAN	162.450
FREDERICKTOWN	162.500
HANNIBAL	162.475

BROADCAST FREQUENCIES

Broadcast range from the weather radio transmitter is approximately 40 miles. The effective range depends on such things as terrain and quality of the receiver and indoor/outdoor antenna. Before you buy a receiver, make sure your area is covered by one of these transmitters.

162.400 MHz
162.425 MHz
162.450 MHz
162.475 MHz
162.500 MHz
162.525 MHz
162.550 MHz

HERMITAGE	162.450
JOPLIN	162.425
KANSAS CITY	162.550
SIKESTON	162.400
SPRINGFIELD	162.400
ST. JOSEPH	162.400
ST. LOUIS	162.550
SUMMERSVILLE	162.475
WARDELL	162.525

Montana

BILLINGS	162.550
BUTTE	162.550
GLASGOW	162.400
GLENDALE	162.475
GREAT FALLS	162.550
HAVRE (Squaw Butte)	162.400
HELENA	162.400
KALISPELL	162.550
MALTA	162.475
MILES CITY	162.400
MISSOULA	162.400
PLENTYWOOD	162.475
PONDERA COUNTY	162.475
SCOBY	162.450

Nebraska

BASSETT	162.475
GRAND ISLAND	162.400
HOLDREGE	162.475
LINCOLN	162.475
MERRIMAN	162.400
NORFOLK	162.550
NORTH PLATTE	162.550
OMAHA	162.400
SCOTTSBLUFF	162.550

Nevada

ELKO	162.550
ELY (Cave Mtn)	162.400
EUREKA	162.550
HAWTHORNE	162.475
LAS VEGAS (Boulder City)	162.550
NORTHWEST NEVADA	162.450
RENO	162.550
WINNEMUCCA	162.400

New Hampshire

CONCORD	162.400
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New Jersey

ATLANTIC CITY	162.400
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New Mexico

ALBUQUERQUE	162.400
CARLSBAD	162.475
CLOVIS	162.475
DES MOINES	162.550
FARMINGTON	162.475
HOBBS	162.400
LAS CRUCES	162.400
ROSWELL	162.450
RUIDOSO	162.550
SANTAFE	162.550

New York

ALBANY	162.550
BINGHAMTON	162.475
BUFFALO	162.550
ELMIRA	162.400
KINGSTON	162.475
LITTLE VALLEY	162.425
NEW YORK CITY	162.550
RIVERHEAD	162.475
ROCHESTER	162.400
STAMFORD	162.400
SYRACUSE	162.550
WATERTOWN	162.475

North Carolina

ASHEVILLE	162.400
BADIN	162.425
CAPE HATTERAS	162.475
CHARLOTTE	162.475
FAYETTEVILLE	162.475
LUMBER BRIDGE	162.525
MARGARETSVILLE	162.500
NEW BERN	162.400
RALEIGH/DURHAM	162.550
ROCKY MOUNT	162.475
WILMINGTON	162.550
WINSTON-SALEM	162.400

North Dakota

BISMARCK	162.475
DEVILS LAKE	162.425
DICKINSON	162.400
FARGO	162.475
GRAND FORKS	162.475
JAMESTOWN	162.550
PETERSBURG	162.400
WILLISTON	162.550

Ohio

AKRON	162.400
BRIDGEPORT	162.525
CALDWELL	162.475
CLEVELAND	162.550
COLUMBUS	162.550
DAYTON	162.475
LIMA	162.400
SANDUSKY	162.400
TOLEDO	162.550

Oklahoma

ALTUS	162.425
CLINTON	162.475
ENID	162.475
LAWTON	162.550
MCALISTER	162.475
OKLAHOMA CITY	162.400
PONCA CITY	162.450
TULSA	162.550
WOODWARD	162.500

Oregon

ASTORIA	162.400
BEND/REDMOND	162.500
COOS BAY	162.400
EUGENE	162.400
GLENWOOD	162.425
KLAMATH FALLS	162.550
MEDFORD	162.400
MT. ASHLAND	162.475
NEWPORT	162.550
PENDLETON	162.400
PORTLAND	162.550
ROSEBURG	162.550
SALEM	162.475
TILLAMOOK	162.475
UMATILLA	162.500

Pennsylvania

ALLENTOWN	162.400
CLEARFIELD	162.550
ERIE	162.400
HARRISBURG	162.550
JOHNSTOWN	162.400
PARKER	162.425
PHILADELPHIA	162.475
PITTSBURGH	162.550
STATE COLLEGE	162.475
THREE SPRINGS	162.525
TOWANDA	162.550
WARREN	162.450
WELLSBORO	162.475
WILKES-BARRE	162.550
WILLIAMSPORT	162.400

Puerto Rico

MARICAO	162.550
SAN JUAN	162.400

Rhode Island

PROVIDENCE	162.400
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South Carolina

BEAUFORT	162.475
CHARLESTON	162.550
COLUMBIA	162.400
CONWAY/ MYRTLE BEACH	162.400
CROSS	162.475
FLORENCE	162.550
GREENVILLE	162.550
SUMTER	162.475

South Dakota

ABERDEEN	162.475
HURON	162.550
PIERRE	162.400
RAPID CITY	162.550
SIoux FALLS	162.400

Tennessee

BRISTOL	162.550
CHATTANOOGA	162.550
COOKEVILLE	162.400
JACKSON	162.550
KNOXVILLE	162.475
LAWRENCEBURG	162.425
MEMPHIS	162.475
NASHVILLE	162.550
SHELBYVILLE	162.475
Waverly	162.400

Texas

ABILENE	162.400
AMARILLO	162.550
AUSTIN	162.400
BAY CITY	162.425
BEAUMONT	162.475
BIG SPRING	162.475
BROWNSVILLE	162.550
BRYAN/COLLEGE STATION	162.550
CEDAR HILL (Dallas)	162.400
CORPUS CHRISTI	162.550
DEL RIO	162.400
EL PASO	162.475
FT. WORTH	162.550
GALVESTON	162.550
HOUSTON	162.400
JUNCTION	162.475
KERRVILLE	162.450
LA GRANGE	162.500
LAREDO	162.475
LLANO	162.420
LUBBOCK	162.400
LUFKIN	162.550
ODESSA/MIDLAND	162.400
PARIS	162.550
PHARR	162.400
RICHLAND SPRINGS	162.525
SAN ANGELO	162.550
SAN ANTONIO	162.550
SHERMAN	162.475
TYLER	162.475
VICTORIA	162.400
WACO	162.475
WICHITA FALLS	162.475

Utah

LAKE POWELL	162.550
LOGAN	162.400
MILFORD/CEDAR CITY	162.400
SALT LAKE CITY	162.550
ST. GEORGE (Utah Hill)	162.425
TOOELE (South Mt.)	162.450
TOOELE (Vernon Hills)	162.525
VERNAL	162.400

Vermont

BURLINGTON	162.400
MARLBORO	162.425
WINDSOR	162.475

Virginia

HEATHSVILLE	162.400
LYNCHBURG	162.550
NORFOLK	162.550
RICHMOND	162.475
ROANOKE	162.475
WASHINGTON, DC (Manassas)	162.550

Virgin Islands

ST. THOMAS	162.475
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Washington

NEAH BAY	162.550
OKANAGAN (Tunk Mt.)	162.525
OLYMPIA	162.475
PORT ANGELES MARINE	162.425
RICHLAND	162.450
SEATTLE	162.550
SPOKANE	162.400
WENATCHEE	162.475
YAKIMA	162.550

West Virginia

BECKLEY	162.550
CHARLESTON	162.400
CLARKSBURG	162.550
GILBERT	162.475
HINTON	162.425
MOOREFIELD	162.400
OGDEN	162.425
SPENCER	162.500
SUTTON	162.450

Wisconsin

ADAMS	162.400
CRANDON	162.450
FOND DU LAC	162.500
GREEN BAY	162.550
JANESVILLE	162.425
LA CROSSE	162.550
MADISON	162.550
MENOMONIE	162.400
MILWAUKEE	162.400
PARK FALLS	162.500
PRAIRIE DU CHIEN	162.500
RICHLAND CENTER	162.450
SHEBOYGAN	162.525
SISTER BAY	162.425
WAUSAU	162.475

Wyoming

CASPER MOUNTAIN	162.550
CHEYENNE	162.475
LANDER	162.475
SHERIDAN	162.500

NOAA Weather Radio coverage is expanding through our partnership programs with local communities. For the latest list of frequencies, check the NOAA Weather Radio Web Site—<http://www.nws.noaa.gov/nwr>

Up-to-the-Minute Weather Reports and Much More...

NOAA Weather Radio is not just for emergencies. It is a round-the-clock source of weather reports and information to help you prepare for the day ahead.

Each National Weather Service office tailors its broadcast to suit local needs. Routine programming is repeated every few minutes and consists of the local forecast, regional conditions and marine forecasts. Additional

information, including river stages and climatic data, is also provided. During emergencies, routine broadcasts are interrupted for warnings, watches and other critical information.

NOAA Weather Radio is the perfect complement to local radio and TV weather news as well as Emergency Managers Weather Information Network, the Internet and other sources of weather information.

At Home

Be warned of approaching storms so you can seek shelter before the storm arrives!



At Work

You can listen to the broadcast no matter where your workplace may be.



While Traveling



Available to travelers on highways and at rest areas across the nation.

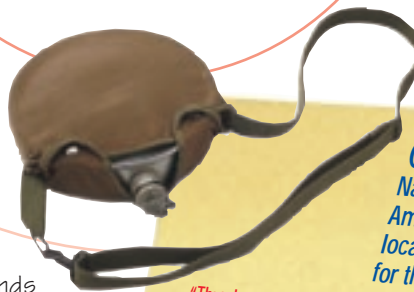
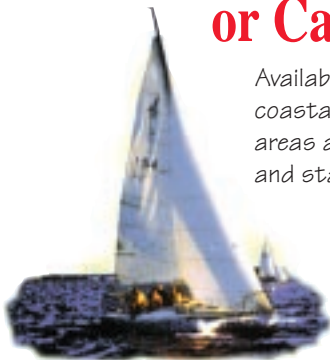
At Play



Include a Weather Radio along with sports equipment when inclement weather is possible.

While Boating or Camping

Available in many coastal and wilderness areas and in campgrounds and state parks.



Contact your local National Weather Service office, American Red Cross chapter, or local emergency management office for the following publications:

- "Thunderstorms and Lightning...The Underrated Killers!" (NOAA PA 92053/ARC 5001)
- "Tornadoes...Nature's Most Violent Storms" (NOAA PA 92052/ARC 5002)
- "Flash Floods and Floods...The Awesome Power" (NOAA PA 92050/ARC 4493)
- "Winter Storms...The Deceptive Killers" (NOAA PA 91002/ARC 4467)
- "Hurricanes...Unleashing Nature's Fury" (NOAA PA 94050/ARC 5030)

To learn more about these programs, visit our home pages.
The addresses are:

NWS — <http://www.nws.noaa.gov>
Red Cross — <http://www.redcross.org>
FEMA — <http://www.fema.gov>

**More Information
is Available!**



The Key to Preparedness...

Everyone Should Have a Plan!

Preparedness begins for everyone (including schools, businesses and the home) with a plan of action. This plan should be kept up to date and practiced frequently! Be sure everyone knows and understands the plan. A vital aspect of the plan should be to designate someone to monitor NOAA Weather Radio. Weather Radio is the key that unlocks the plan and puts it into action!

STAY INFORMED by listening to NOAA Weather Radio for the latest watches and warnings. When conditions are favorable for severe weather, a **WATCH** is issued. When severe weather is imminent or occurring, a **WARNING** is issued.

Weather Service personnel use information from Doppler radar, storm spotters, state and local officials, satellites and other sources to issue warnings. These Watches and Warnings are broadcast over local NOAA Weather Radio stations and also are retransmitted by many local radio and television stations. With this information, local emergency management and public safety officials can activate local warning systems to alert communities of an impending weather threat.



If local officials advise you to leave, do so immediately!

What to Listen For:

WATCH

SEVERE THUNDERSTORM Severe thunderstorms are possible in your area.

TORNADO Tornadoes are possible in your area. Remain alert for approaching storms.

FLASH FLOOD OR FLOOD Flash flooding or flooding is possible in your area.

WINTER STORM Hazardous winter weather conditions, such as heavy snow and/or ice, are possible in your area.

HURRICANE/ TYPHOON Hurricane/Typhoon conditions are possible in the specified area of the Watch.

WARNING

A severe thunderstorm is imminent or has been indicated by Doppler radar or reported by storm spotters.

A tornado is imminent or has been indicated by Doppler radar or reported by storm spotters. Move to your predesignated place of safety immediately!

Flash flooding or flooding is occurring or is imminent. Take necessary precautions immediately!

Hazardous winter weather conditions are forecast to occur within 12 hours or are about to begin in your area. Stay indoors!

Hurricane/Typhoon conditions are expected in the specified area of the Warning, usually within 24 hours. Complete storm preparations and evacuate if directed by officials.

Family Disaster Plan...

Families should be prepared for all hazards that affect their area. NOAA's National Weather Service, the Federal Emergency Management Agency and the American Red Cross urge each family to develop a family disaster plan.

Where will your family be when disaster strikes? They could be anywhere—at home, at work, at school or in the car. How will you find each other? Will you know if your children are safe? Disasters may force you to evacuate your neighborhood or confine you to your home. What would you do if basic services—water, gas, electricity or telephones—were cut off?

Follow these basic steps to develop a family disaster plan...

Gather information about hazards.

1. Contact your local National Weather Service office, emergency management or civil defense office and American Red Cross chapter. Find out what type of disasters could occur and how you should respond. Learn your community's warning signals and evacuation plans.

Meet with your family to create a plan.

1. Discuss the information you have gathered. Pick two places to meet during or after an emergency: a spot outside your home for an emergency, such as fire, and a place away from your neighborhood in case you can't return home. Choose an out-of-state friend as your "family check-in contact" for everyone to call if the family gets separated. Discuss what you would do if advised to evacuate.

Implement your plan.

1. Obtain a NOAA Weather Radio; (2) Post emergency telephone numbers by phones; (3) Install safety features in your house, such as smoke detectors and fire extinguishers; (4) Inspect your home for potential hazards (such as items that can move, fall, break or catch fire) and correct them; (5) Have your family learn basic safety measures, such as CPR and first aid; how to use a fire extinguisher; and how and when to turn off water, gas and electricity in your home; (6) Teach children how and when to call 911 or your local Emergency Medical Services number; (7) Keep enough supplies in your home to meet your needs for at least three days. Assemble a disaster supplies kit with items you may need in case of an evacuation. Store these supplies in sturdy, water-resistant, easy-to-carry containers, such as backpacks or duffle bags. Keep important family documents in a waterproof container. Keep a smaller disaster supplies kit in the trunk of your car.

A DISASTER SUPPLIES KIT SHOULD INCLUDE:

A three-day supply of water (one gallon per person per day) and food that won't spoil ♦ one change of clothing and footwear per person ♦ one blanket or sleeping bag per person ♦ a first aid kit, including prescription medicines ♦ emergency tools, including a battery-powered NOAA Weather Radio and a portable radio, flashlight and plenty of extra batteries ♦ an extra set of car keys and cash ♦ special items for infant, elderly and disabled family members.

Practice and maintain your plan.

1. Ask questions to make sure your family remembers meeting places, phone numbers and safety rules. Conduct drills. Test your Weather Radio monthly using the local test tone broadcast by the National Weather Service every Wednesday between the hours of 11 a.m. and 1 p.m. Test your Weather Radio and smoke detectors monthly and change the batteries at least once a year. Test and recharge your fire extinguisher(s) according to manufacturer's instructions. Replace stored water and food every six months.

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