

Deaf and Hard of Hearing Outreach Updates

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What's new at NWS Atlanta?

- Annual Deaf and Hard of Hearing Awareness Week – September 23-29, 2024
 - Extra engagement with hurricane and preparedness graphics ahead of Helene
- New Local DHH Webpage:
<https://www.weather.gov/ffc/deafandhardofhearing>
- Partnership – with Floyd County EMA and Georgia School for the Deaf
 - Weather class to be taught in January
 - Plan to also supply weather radio attachments
- Local brochure and new graphics for outreach events



What's new around the country?

- The NWS (agency) providing comments in support of FCC rule proposal for **WEA Alerts to be provided in ASL**
- **NOAA OHCS has a job aid for managers** on working with DHH individuals
- NWS Huntsville (AL): Created a brochure for DHH friendly emergency supply kits
 - **Spanish version** of this brochure is **in progress**
- NWS Newport/Morehead City (NC): Creating **Hurricane Preparedness videos that will include ASL interpreters**
- NWS Memphis (TN): Actively **searching for a donor to provide weather radios & DHH attachments to community** members
- NWS Greenville-Spartanburg: **presentation at their annual IWT** in April 2024
- Several other offices (IL, AL, SC, NE) are conducting a variety of outreach to the DHH community





¡Recibe Alertas y Salvar la Vida!

Radio del Tiempo NOAA con accesibilidad (luces y audífonos) de peligros relacionados.

Compatibilidad

Los accesorios mostrados son compatibles con el radio del tiempo y con el logo de Alertas Públicas.

¿Dónde los puedo obtener?

Las radios del tiempo están disponibles por internet y en tiendas locales. Los accesorios están disponibles a través de internet.



Etiquette Tips

When working with partners in the DHH community - here are some things that we've learned:

- When meeting for the first time, try to relax and use whatever means available to communicate. Remember, they are people first.
- Be patient & intentional with your actions.
- Remember that the use of speech is an individual choice amongst the DHH community. Respect their decision.
- Ask the person what the best way to interact/communicate with them is.
- Get the attention of the person BEFORE speaking.
 - Examples: wave within visual range, light tap on shoulder, tapping on desk
- Facial expressions and visual messages should match spoken/signed message.
- Keep acronyms to a minimum as it can be difficult for interpreters to convey
- Have paper and pen/pencil available whenever possible.
- Remember that capitalization matters for context.

Etiquette Tips

Things to avoid when interacting with a Deaf and/or Hard of Hearing individual:

- Do not turn your back while speaking to a Deaf/HH individual.
- Do not expect the person who is Deaf/HH to lip-read a conversation with complete accuracy.
- Do not shout or raise your voice.
 - Speaking louder doesn't help and the exaggerated lip movements make lip-reading more difficult.
- Do not place anything over your mouth when speaking
- When using interpretive services, avoid using phrases such as "Tell him.../Tell her..."
 - Speak naturally as though the interpreter is not there.

