

SAME Technology

Make sure the weather radio that you purchase includes the SAME feature. The Specific Area Message Encoding (SAME) Technology used in NOAA Weather Radios enables you to correctly program your weather radio based on your county and available transmitter. As a result, you will receive warnings for your county, and not for another location which may be a few counties away. It is important and a best practice to only use this method.

SAME CODES FOR SOUTHEAST NORTH CAROLINA & NORTHEAST SOUTH CAROLINA

COUNTY	FIPS/SAME Code	TRANSMITTER
Bladen, NC	037017	Winnabow Saint Pauls
Brunswick, NC	037019	Winnabow Aynor
Columbus, NC	037047	Winnabow Saint Pauls Florence Aynor
New Hanover, NC	037129	Winnabow
Pender, NC	037141	Winnabow
Robeson, NC	037155	Saint Pauls Florence
Darlington, SC	045031	Florence
Dillon, SC	045033	Saint Pauls Florence Aynor
Florence, SC	045041	Florence Aynor
Georgetown, SC	045043	Georgetown Aynor
Horry, SC	045051	Aynor
Marion, SC	045067	Florence Aynor
Marlboro, SC	045069	Saint Pauls Florence
Williamsburg, SC	045089	Florence Georgetown Aynor

Where Can I Buy a Radio?

Most electronics stores carry NOAA Weather Radios, which can cost typically between \$20 and \$50. Having the SAME feature is important, so make sure that when you purchase your weather radio, that it has this feature. Weather radios come available for your desktop, or smaller, portable sizes, great for traveling, camping, or sporting events.

The Voice of Weather Radio

You may notice that the voice you hear on NOAA Weather Radio is not a real person. This is because the weather radio uses a synthetic voice which automates newly updated information as soon as it is available.

Questions?

If you have any questions about your NOAA Weather radio, or need assistance programming your radio, contact your local National Weather Service office.

National Weather Service, Wilmington, NC

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Twitter: @NWSWilmingtonNC



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**National Weather Service
Wilmington, NC
(910) 762-4289
weather.gov/ilm**



What is NOAA Weather Radio?

Known as the “Voice of NOAA’s National Weather Service”, the NOAA Weather Radio is a 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, one stop shop for official warnings, watches, and other hazardous information including Civil Emergency Messages(i.e. earthquakes, chemical spills, AMBER alerts, etc.) issued by your local National Weather Service office. Other information includes latest weather observations, forecasts and local climate and river information.

This free service from the National Weather Service and other Federal/State agencies is one of the quickest ways to protect you from impending hazardous weather. Whether it is the afternoon, or 2:00 AM, your weather radio will alert for weather hazards such as watches and warnings, which includes tornadoes and winter storms. It is important to know the difference between a watch and a warning.

Visit www.weather.gov/nwr for more information

What if the Power Goes Out?

Although you can plug it into an electrical outlet, NOAA Weather Radio is also battery-operated. If you loose power you will still receive information from your weather radio. A good rule of thumb is to put new batteries in your weather radio the same time that you replace the batteries in your smoke alarm and carbon monoxide monitor.

Being battery-operated, this allows you to also take your NOAA Weather Radio with you wherever you go, especially if you have to seek shelter immediately due to impending hazardous weather. This is an important item to have in your safety kit.

It is important to keep in mind that the broadcast range from the NOAA Weather radio is approximately 40 miles. Also, the effective range will depend on the terrain in your specific location.

WEATHER HAZARD	WATCH	WARNING
SEVERE THUNDERSTORM	Conditions are favorable for the development of severe thunderstorms in and close to the watch area.	Quarter size hail or winds greater than 58 mph is imminent or has been indicated by Doppler Radar or reported by storm spotters.
TORNADO	Conditions are favorable for the development of tornadoes in and close to the watch area.	A tornado is imminent or has been indicated by Doppler Radar or reported by storm spotters.
FLASH FLOOD or FLOOD	Conditions are favorable for flash flooding or flooding in and close to the watch area.	Flash flooding or flooding is imminent or has been reported by storm spotters.
WINTER STORM	Hazardous winter weather conditions, such as heavy snow and/or ice, are likely in your area.	Hazardous winter weather conditions have begun or are about to begin.

Source: NWS Huntsville, AL

Troubleshooting Tips

Here are some helpful tips to make sure that your weather radio is properly working!

- It is best to place your NOAA Weather Radio near a window, or close to the exterior of your home, with the antenna fully extended.
- Make sure that your receiver is tuned to the correct channel and frequency for your area
- Make sure the switch for weather radio is “on”.
- Check to make sure that you have programmed the correct SAME codes for the county in which you would like to receive alerts for, including surrounding counties if you wish. This will make you aware of hazardous weather that may not be in your area at that time, but that of which is moving towards your location.
- Each Wednesday, between 11 AM and 12 Pm, check your radio for the routine weekly test, which is disseminated by your local National Weather Service.

NWS WILMINGTON, NC TRANSMITTERS		
St. Pauls, NC	162.475 MHz	WXL-50
Winnabow, NC	162.550 MHz	KHB-31
Aynor, SC	162.400 MHz	KEC-95
Florence, SC	162.550 MHz	WXJ-22
Georgetown, SC	162.500 MHz	WNG-628

