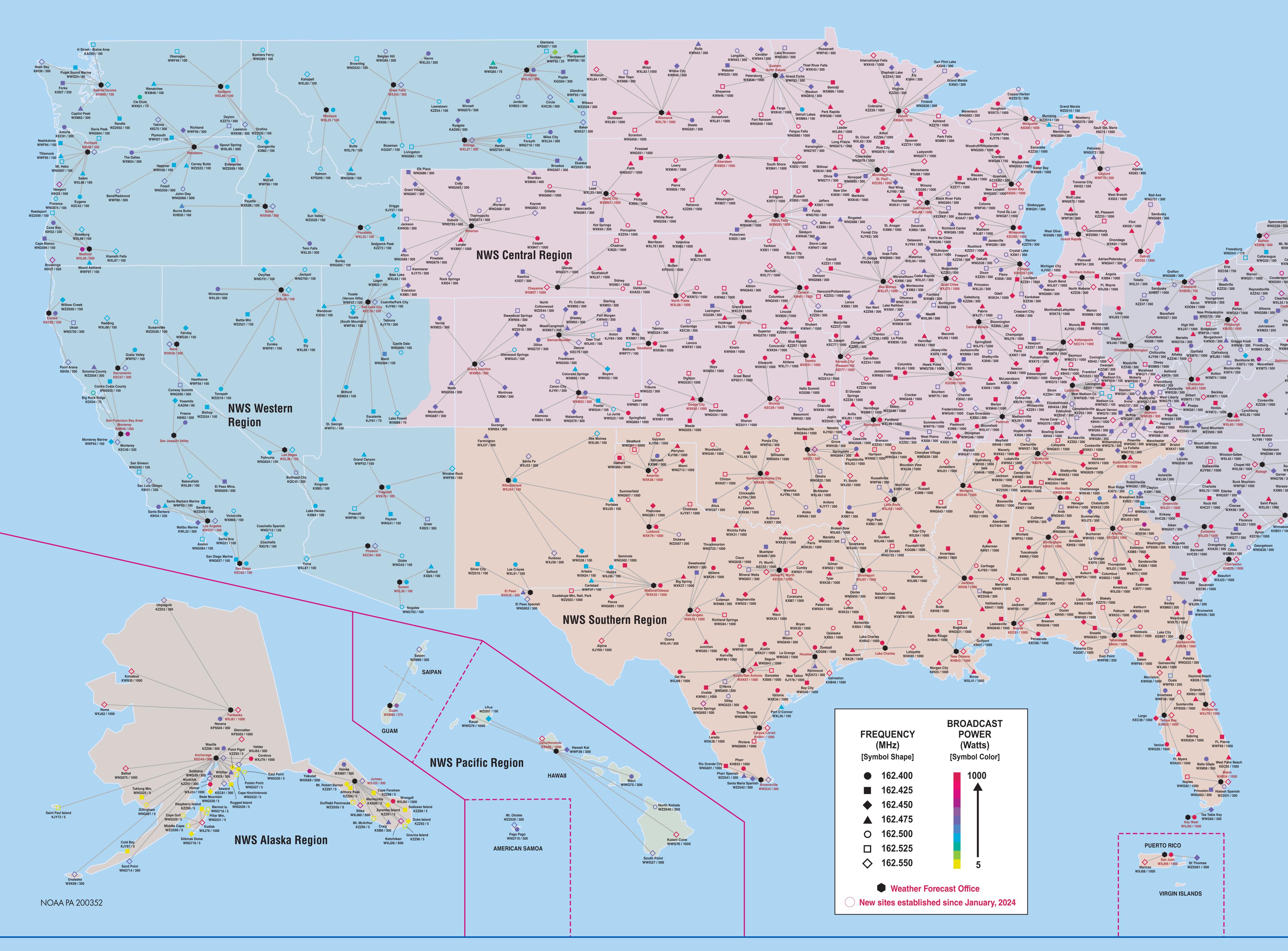


NOAA Weather Radio All Hazards (NWR)



"The Voice of NOAA's National Weather Service"

Supporting NOAA's Weather Ready Nation Initiative



The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Weather Radio All Hazards (NWR) is a network of radio stations broadcasting NOAA's National Weather Service (NWS) warnings, watches, forecasts and other emergency information from nearby NWS offices 24 hours a day.

Known as the "Voice of NOAA's National Weather Service," NWR is provided as a public service by NOAA. As of January, 2025, the NWR network included 1035 stations covering an estimated 95% of the U.S. population. The NWR network provides coverage in all 50 states, Puerto Rico, the U.S. Virgin Islands, American Samoa, Guam, and the Northern Mariana Islands, including adjacent waterways and coastal waters. Mariners in or near port are highly encouraged to use NWR.

As an "all hazards" radio network, NWR is a single source for comprehensive weather and emergency information. NWR broadcasts emergency warning and post-event information for severe weather events and non-weather emergency events. Warnings are broadcast for both natural (such as tsunamis and volcanoes) and man-made (such as Amber Alerts, toxic chemical and biological releases, and terrorist attacks) events as necessary. NWR is the primary actuator of the Federal Communications Commission's (FCC) Emergency Alert System (EAS). NWR is the only federally-operated system broadcasting weather and emergency warnings to the public. Reception of NWR broadcasts depends on reliable signal reception. Typically a reliable signal can be received up to 40 miles from a station, assuming level terrain. However, NWS stations in mountainous and urban areas may experience reduced signal reception due to signal blockage.

NOAA developed Specific Area Message Encoding (SAME) for NWR. SAME is a digital code that is sent with many warnings, watches, and emergency events. The SAME includes the type of event, the applicable geographic area for the event, and how long the event is valid. Specifically, Warnings are broadcast when

Watches are broadcast when conditions are favoration for certain events to occur, and Emergency event messages can provide follow up information to an event, or alerts for events that could potentially become life threatening. SAME events are

NWS Eastern Region

and cable operators to selectively activate the EAS to

NWR receivers can be purchased at many retail stores, boat and marine equipment stores, through mail order catalogues, and on Internet web sites that sell electronic merchandise. They are also included in many consumer electronic products such as auto, truck, tractor, motorcycle, and marine radios; scanners and CB radios; clock radios, FRS transceivers, radar detectors, and television sets. NWR receivers equipped with SAME can be programmed by the user to alarm for weather and other emergency events in the specific areas desired by that user. SAME geographic/ county code numbers for all parts of the country are available by telephone or on the Internet (see contacts table). Broadcasts are available on seven unique frequencies assigned to NWR (see legend, bottom of poster). SAME code numbers are also assigned for NWS nearshore marine zones.

recommends devices that have been certified to Public AlertTM standards. The Public AlertTM performance standards were developed in a cooperative effort by NOAA, Environment Canada, and the electronics industry, and were established as an international standard. These standards are managed by the Consumer Technology Association (CTA). Receivers certified as meeting these standards carry the Public AlertTM trademark. Public AlertTM receivers include SAME, can be programmed for the type(s) of events you desire, have audio and visual alarms, and can operate in a muted mode until activated by an emergency message. They also have battery back-up and can activate external alarm devices (strobe lights, sirens, bed shakers, etc.) for people with disabilities.

Some of the events that can activate Public AlertTM alarms are listed below:

911 Telephone Outage Flood Shelter In Place Hazardous Materials Special Marine Avalanche High Wind Blizzard Tropical Storm Child Abduction Hurricane Radiological Hazard Civil Emergency Severe Thunderstorm Extreme Wind Storm Surge

Additional information on Public AlertTM can be found on the CTA website at http://www.cta.tech.

Contacts for the NOAA Weather Radio All Hazards Program

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301-427-9315

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Phone 888-NWR-SAME (888-697-7263)

Internet http://www.weather.gov/nwr/counties

NWR Internet Website http://www.weather.gov/nwr/

NOAA PA 200352 Poster URL https://www.weather.gov/media/nwr/NWR_poster.pdf

To report transmitter problems, email <u>nwroutage@noaa.gov</u>, or call 1-888-886-1227.

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