Where can I purchase a NOAA Weather Radio?

Check with stores that sell electronics, or call the National Weather Service office closest to you. 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 digital SAME coding technology, more sophisticated weather radio receivers are 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.

For more information on NOAA Weather Radios: http://www.nws.noaa.gov/nwr/nwrrcvr.htm

What will activate my NOAA Weather Radio?

Warnings, watches, and statements that may activate the NWR include but are not limited to, the following products:

Weather Hazards:
- Tornado Warning, Tornado Watch, Severe Thunderstorm Warning, Severe Thunderstorm Watch, Flood and Flash Flood Warning, Flood and Flash Flood Watch, Severe Weather Statement, Flash Flood Statement, Special Marine Warning, Winter Storm Warning, Hurricane Warning, Hurricane Statement, Tropical Storm Warning, Tropical Storm Watch.

Hazards Relayed From Local Authorities:

NWR activation determined by local needs.

“The voice of NOAA’s National Weather Service broadcasting continuous weather and other hazard information 24 hours a day, 365 days a year on the following frequencies:

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

U.S. Department of Commerce
National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration
National Weather Service
What is a NOAA Weather Radio?

NOAA Weather Radio (NWR) is a nationwide network of radio stations broadcasting continuous weather information direct from a nearby National Weather Service office. NWR broadcasts National Weather Service warnings, watches, forecasts and other hazard information 24 hours a day. Known as the “Voice of NOAA’s National Weather Service,” NWR is provided as a public service by the National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), part of the Department of Commerce. NWR includes more than 850 transmitters, covering all 50 states, adjacent coastal waters, Puerto Rico, the U.S. Virgin Islands, and the U.S. Pacific Territories. NWR requires a special radio receiver or scanner capable of picking up the signal.

“ALL HAZARDS” Capabilities

NOAA Weather Radio broadcasts warning and 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 the Federal Communication Commission’s (FCC) Emergency Alert System, NWR is an "all hazards" radio network, making it your single source for comprehensive weather and emergency information.

Weather Reports and Much More!

NWR is a round-the-clock source of weather reports and information to help you prepare for the day ahead. The regular broadcasts are especially tailored to weather information needs of the people within the service area of the transmitter. Routine programming is repeated every few minutes and consists of the local forecast, regional conditions, river stages and forecasts, climatic data, etc., and the information is updated as needed. During emergencies, routine broadcasts are interrupted for warnings, watches and other critical information.

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. NWR SAME receivers employ digital coding to automatically activate for specific weather or emergency conditions in specific areas (typically a county). You program SAME receivers for the county(s) and types of products you desire. Your receiver will then automatically alert you only of weather and other emergencies in areas you programmed. NWR receivers without the SAME capability alert for emergencies anywhere within the coverage area of the NWR transmitter, typically several counties, even though the emergency could be well away from the listener. To program NWR SAME receivers with the proper county(s) of choice, you need to know the 6-digit SAME code(s) for that county(s). Once you have the number, follow the directions supplied by the manufacturer of your NWR SAME receiver for programming. The number is available two ways:

1-888-NWR-SAME (1-888-697-7263) OR http://www.nws.noaa.gov/nwr/indexnw.htm

NOAA Weather Radio Coverage

By nature and by design, NOAA Weather Radio coverage is limited to an area within 40 miles of the transmitter. The quality of what is heard is dictated by the distance from the transmitter, local terrain, and the quality and location of the receiver. In general, those on flat terrain or at sea, using a high quality receiver, can expect reliable reception far beyond 40 miles. Those living in cities surrounded by large buildings and those in mountain valleys with standard receivers may experience little or no reception at considerably less than 40 miles. For more information on coverage areas visit this website: http://www.nws.noaa.gov/nwr/usframes.html

NOAA Weather Radio Transmitters Covering National Weather Service Paducah’s County Warning Area:

KXI-66 (Piedmont) 162.425
WWG-48 (Doniphan) 162.450
MO: Carter, Wayne, Butler, Ripley, Reynolds
WXI-47 (Bloomfield) 162.400
MO: Wayne, Butler, Stoddard, Scott, New Madrid, Mississippi, Dunklin
WWG-47 (Wardell) 162.525
MO: New Madrid
WWG-49 (Fredericktown) 162.500
MO: Bollinger, Wayne
KXI-42 (Chester) 162.450
MO: Perry
KXI-93 (Cape Girardeau) 162.550
MO: Bollinger, Cape Girardeau, Perry, Scott
Mississippi. IL: Alexander, Union
KIH-46 (Mayfield) 162.475
MO: Mississippi. KY: Fulton, Hickman, Carlisle, Ballard, McCracken, Graves, Calloway, Marshall, Livingston, Crittenden, Lyon, Trigg. IL: Massac, Pope
WXI-49 (Marion) 162.425
IL: Perry, Jackson, Union, Pope, Alexander, Pulaski, Massac, Johnson, Williamson, Franklin, Saline, Hardin
KXI-49 (Salim) 162.475
IL: Jefferson, Wayne
KXI-48 (Newton) 162.450
IL: Wayne, Edwards
KXI-52 (McClellanboro) 162.400
IL: Hamilton, Saline, Gallatin, White
KIG-76 (Evansville) 162.550
KY: Henderson. Union
WWG-83 (Edwardsport) 162.425
IN: Gibson, Pike
WXJ-91 (Madisonville) 162.525
KXI-26 (Hopkinsville) 162.400
KY: Union, Webster, McLean, Henderson, Daviess, Crittenden, Hopkins, Muhlenberg, Todd, Caldwell, Lyon, Trigg, Christian
KIH-45 (Bowling Green) 162.400
KY: Muhlenberg, Todd
KIZ-61 (Whiteville) 162.475
KY: Daviess IN: Spencer