

# Stay Informed!



NOAA

## NOAA Weather Radio

NOAA Weather Radio (NWR) is the prime alerting and critical information delivery system of the NWS. NWR broadcasts warnings, watches, forecasts and other hazard information 24 hours a day. Known as the "voice of the NWS," the NWR network has more than 590 stations, covering the 50 states, adjacent coastal waters, Puerto Rico, the U.S. Virgin Islands and U.S. Pacific territories.

Many weather radios are equipped with a special alarm tone feature that sounds an alert giving you immediate information about a life-threatening situation. Routine weather radio programming is interrupted during tropical cyclone threats to send out the special tone that activates weather radios in the listening area. The hearing and visually impaired can get these warnings by connecting weather radios to devices such as strobe lights, pagers, bed-shakers, personal computers and text printers.

The NWS encourages people to buy a weather radio equipped with the Specific Area Message Encoder (SAME) feature. This feature automatically alerts you when important tropical cyclone information is issued for your area.

More information on NOAA Weather Radio can be found by contacting your local NWS office or on the Internet at: [www.nws.noaa.gov/nwr](http://www.nws.noaa.gov/nwr).

## NOAA Weather Wire Service

The NWS NOAA Weather Wire Service (NWWS) provides reliable and timely warnings. NWWS has been improved and now makes limited graphic images available through a standard computer.

## Emergency Managers Weather Information Network

The Emergency Managers Weather Information Network (EMWIN) offers an economical way to receive all products available on NWWS, plus graphical forecasts and select satellite data. For details, go to [iwin.nws.noaa.gov/emwin/index.htm](http://iwin.nws.noaa.gov/emwin/index.htm).

## Interactive Weather Information Network

The Interactive Weather Information Network (IWIN) is a Web site with live data similar to EMWIN. It is open to all users and contains warnings in addition to many routine NWS products. To view IWIN products, go to <http://iwin.nws.noaa.gov>.

## Internet Resources

More hurricane information and news is just a click away.

- National Weather Service: [www.nws.noaa.gov](http://www.nws.noaa.gov)
- National Hurricane Center: [www.nhc.noaa.gov](http://www.nhc.noaa.gov)
- Central Pacific Hurricane Center: [www.nws.noaa.gov/pr/hnl/cphc/pages/cphc.shtml](http://www.nws.noaa.gov/pr/hnl/cphc/pages/cphc.shtml)

### Links to local NWS Offices

- NWS Eastern Region: [www.erh.noaa.gov](http://www.erh.noaa.gov)
- NWS Southern Region: [www.srh.noaa.gov](http://www.srh.noaa.gov)
- NWS Pacific Region: [www.nws.noaa.gov/pr](http://www.nws.noaa.gov/pr)

### Historical Information

- Nat'l Climatic Data Center: [www.ncdc.noaa.gov](http://www.ncdc.noaa.gov)

### Other Emergency Information Sites

- American Red Cross: [www.redcross.org](http://www.redcross.org)
- FEMA: [www.fema.gov](http://www.fema.gov)
- U.S. Geological Survey: [www.usgs.gov/hurricanes](http://www.usgs.gov/hurricanes)



# What To Listen For

- **HURRICANE/TROPICAL STORM WATCH:** Hurricane/tropical storm conditions are possible in the specified area of the **Watch**, usually within 36 hours. During a **Watch**, prepare your home and review your plan for evacuation in case a Hurricane/Tropical Storm **Warning** is issued.
- **HURRICANE/TROPICAL STORM WARNING:** Hurricane/tropical storm conditions are expected in the specified area of the **Warning**, usually within 24 hours. Complete storm preparations and leave the threatened area if directed by local officials.
- **SHORT TERM WATCHES AND WARNINGS:** These warnings provide detailed information on specific hurricane threats, such as floods and tornadoes.
- **FLOOD WATCH:** This product informs the public and cooperating agencies of *possible* flooding. If you are in a **Watch** area, check flood action plans, keep informed and be ready to act if a warning is issued or you see flooding.
- **FLOOD/FLASH FLOOD WARNING:** A flood/flash flood **Warning** is issued for specific communities, streams or areas where flooding is imminent or in progress. Persons in the warning area should take precautions IMMEDIATELY!

## National Hurricane Center and Central Pacific Hurricane Center Products

**PUBLIC ADVISORIES** offer critical hurricane watch, warning and forecast information.

**FORECASTS/ADVISORIES** provide detailed hurricane track and wind field information.

**PROBABILITIES OF HURRICANE/TROPICAL STORM CONDITIONS** offer a measure of the forecast track accuracy. The probabilities have no relation to tropical cyclone intensity.

## Local NWS Office Products

**HURRICANE LOCAL STATEMENTS** give greater detail on how the storm will impact your area.

**NON-PRECIPITATION WEATHER PRODUCTS** provide watches and warnings for inland areas which could experience tropical storm or hurricane force winds.

*All of the above information must be used to make an informed decision on your risk and what actions should be taken. Remember to listen to your local official's recommendations and to NOAA Weather Radio for the latest hurricane information.*