



Severe Weather Safety Tips: **Weather Radio**



Provided by
Kentucky Emergency Management (KYEM)

EAS

Emergency Alert System

The NOAA weather radio is one of the primary inputs into the **Emergency Alert System (EAS)** which is the national warning system in the United States. In addition to alerting the public of local weather emergencies such as tornadoes and flash floods it can be used to alert the public to all hazards.

You can buy NOAA weather radio receivers at many retail outlets, including electronics, department, sporting goods, and boat and marine accessory stores and their catalogs. They can also be purchased via the Internet from online retailers or directly from manufacturers. Two of the most important factors to be aware of when purchasing a weather alert radio are: SAME technology & Battery Back-Up.

Specific Alert Message Encoding (SAME) is equipped in most newer alert radios and allows you to specify the particular area for which you wish to receive alerts. Most warnings and watches broadcast over NOAA Weather Radio are county-based or independent city-based. Since most NWR transmitters are broadcasting for a number of counties, SAME receivers will respond only to alerts issued for the area (or areas) you have selected.

Quite often during a severe storm you may experience a power outage. Having an alert radio with battery backup will ensure you will continue to receive crucial safety alerts.

During severe weather, time is of the essence; being aware of what is going on around you is important to keeping yourself safe. Weather radios are a great way to do that. Knowing when and where warnings and watches are issued is important so you are aware of where the threat is and where it is going. To be fully informed and to increase preparation time it is important to know not only your county but the surrounding counties so you are aware of how close the threat is to you.



**Can you name every county that borders the county you live in?
Don't forget the counties in bordering states!**