

External antenna jack: While most receivers come with a whip antenna, Sonoma County's hilly terrain can make reception problematic in some areas. Some receivers come with an external antenna jack that will allow you to connect to a larger antenna (indoors or outdoors). NWR broadcasts are in the Public Service VHF frequencies, just above FM radio and between TV channels 6 and 7, so an antenna designed for VHF televisions or FM radios should work.

The NWS recommends receivers with a 0.5 to 1.0 microvolt sensitivity for 20 decibels (dB) quieting, a selectivity of 45 to 70 dB down at +/- 25 kilohertz (kHz), tunable or switchable to all frequencies.

Where Can I Purchase a NOAA Weather Radio? Most local electronics stores carry NWRs, as do a variety of sources on the Web. More information is available through the Internet at the National Weather Service's NOAA Weather Radio Web Site: <http://www.nws.noaa.gov/nwr>

Local Frequencies: Depending on where you are in Sonoma County, you should be able to pick up one or more of the following frequencies on your NWR:

Area	SAME #	NWR Trans.	FQ	Call Sign	Watts
Sonoma	006097	San Fran.	162.475	KHB49	330
Marin	006041	San Fran.	162.400	KHB49	330
Marin	006041	Monterey	162.550	KEC49	300
Mendocino	006045	Point Arena	162.550	KIH30	1000
Mendocino	006045	Ukiah	162.525	WNG720	300



Seconds Count!
NOAA Weather Radios provide immediate emergency information.

All-Hazard Alerts, Warnings, Forecasts



Working with the FCC's Emergency Alert System, a National Weather Radio is your best single source for weather and emergency information.



Sonoma County Emergency and Preparedness Information

<https://socoemergency.org/>



Sonoma County
Department of Emergency Management
2300 County Center Dr., #220B
Santa Rosa, CA 95403

Phone: (707) 565-1152



Healdsburg, 1906



Rio Nido, 2006

Sonoma County is threatened by a multitude of potential disasters including

flooding, winter storms, earthquake, wildland/urban fires, landslides, hazardous materials incidents, drought, freeze, dam failure, tsunami, and terrorism as well as isolated events that could affect the tourism, agricultural, dairy and fishing industries. In the last twenty years, Sonoma County has experienced all of these events except for dam failure and tsunami.



1969 Earthquake, Santa Rosa



January 2006, Rohnert Park

Seconds can Save Lives

Having a NOAA Weather Radio (NWR) in your home can alert you instantly to many life-threatening situations. In combination with emergency preparedness, timely alerts give you a vital advantage in any emergency.



“NOAA Weather Radios should be as common as Smoke Detectors in American Homes.”

NOAA Weather Radio broadcasts National Weather Service warnings, watches, forecasts and other hazard information 24 hours a day, and is provided as a public service by the Department of Commerce's National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration. The NOAA Weather Radio network has more than 425 stations in the 50 states and near adjacent coastal waters.

A NOAA Weather Radio (NWR) provides instant access to the same weather reports and emergency information that meteorologists and emergency personnel use—information that can save your life!

We recommend purchasing an NWR equipped with a special alarm tone feature that will sound an alarm and give you immediate information about life-threatening situations. The hearing- and visually impaired also can get these warnings by connecting weather radios to other kinds of attention-getting devices.



During an emergency, National Weather Service forecasters interrupt routine weather radio programming and send out the special tone that activates weather radios in the listening area. NOAA Weather Radio broadcasts warning and post-event information for all types of hazards—both natural (such as earthquakes and technological (such as chemical releases or oil spills)).

Working with other Federal agencies and the Federal Communications Commission's new Emergency Alert System, NWR is an "all hazards" radio network, making it the single source for the most comprehensive weather and emergency information.

Choosing a NWR—Important Features:

Prices can vary from \$20 to \$200, depending on the model. You can buy portable handheld models or desktop. Among the more useful features in a receiver are:

Tone alarm: The National Weather Service will send a tone alarm before most 'warning' and many 'watch' messages are broadcast. Even if the radio is turned off, the tone will activate, sounding the alert .

Specific Alert Message Encoding (SAME) allows you to specify the particular area for which you wish to receive alerts. 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. This minimizes the number of "false alarms" for events which might be a few counties away .

Selectable alerting of events: Some receivers also allow you to turn off the alarm for events which might not be important for you. For example, if you don't live near the ocean or tidal valleys, you might not need to be alerted to Coastal Flood Warnings.

Battery backup: Because power outages often occur during storms, battery backup is crucial. However, unless you have a portable unit which you will use away from other power sources, an AC power connection is recommended.

