

IPAWS ADVISORY



Make Sure Your Community Is Ready to Receive Alerts and Warnings

With severe storms, floods, and fires sweeping the nation, the public needs to know where and how to receive emergency alerts when it matters most.

Share [this linked fact sheet](#) and the language below with your community to help them be prepared and informed before, during, and after an emergency.

Guidance to Share With Your Community

Make sure you can receive emergency alerts when it matters most, whether you're at home, at work, on the go, or in a remote area. Taking a few simple steps now can protect you and those around you in the event of an emergency, no matter where you are.

1. **Opt into Wireless Emergency Alerts on your mobile phone:** Alert options are usually found in “notifications” or “safety and emergency” settings. Verify that you have opted into getting Wireless Emergency Alerts, and if you receive an alert, follow the instructions carefully. Make sure to keep your phone charged at all times.
2. **Find a radio or television source of emergency information to receive Emergency Alert System messages:** Battery-powered or hand-crank radios can help you stay connected when the power goes out. Tune into local news and community, workplace, school, and other information channels to receive additional information and

instructions. If you're traveling, make sure to identify the local sources of information for your travel location.

3. **Keep a NOAA Weather Radio on-hand:** Obtain a battery-powered or hand-crank NOAA Weather Radio, which is commonly available online and in stores.
4. **Learn about unique local alerting systems:** Your local emergency manager and emergency management office website are useful sources of information. Look for whether your area has unique emergency alerting systems, such as highway message boards, sirens, and digital billboards.
5. **Download local alerting applications on your mobile phone:** Alert applications for your jurisdiction, or areas you may be traveling to, are often found on the local emergency management office's website. Once you download the application, make sure to enable push notifications.
6. **Make sure you have emergency supplies:** Prepare emergency kits for your home, workplace, and car in case of a crisis. Use resources like www.Ready.gov/kit to build your kits.
7. **Stay informed as conditions change:** Monitor your local television and radio stations before, during, and after emergencies for real-time updates.

Last but not least, take a few minutes to review FEMA's [Guide for Alerts and Warnings](#), which has information about common hazards and protective actions you can take to stay safe. It's better to be ready for an emergency a year too early than a minute too late.

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