



Working Together to Save Lives

All Hazards NOAA Weather Radio (NWR)

- # NWR is an all-hazards public warning system, broadcasting forecasts, warnings and emergency information 24 hours a day directly to the public.
- # “All Hazards” messages include:
 - ▶ **natural** (ex. tornado, hurricane, floods, earthquakes)
 - ▶ **technological accidents** (ex. chemical release, oil spill, nuclear power plant emergencies, maritime accidents, train derailments)
 - ▶ **AMBER alerts**
 - ▶ **terrorist attacks**
- # Non-weather emergency messages will be broadcast over NWR when: (1) the public safety is involved, (2) the message comes from an official government source, and (3) time is critical.
- # The Federal Response Plan assigns responsibility to the National Weather Service to broadcast non-weather emergency messages.
- # Non-weather emergency messages will be broadcast over NWR at the request of local and/or state officials. The NWS does not initiate the contact nor the message. When local or state officials wish to broadcast a message on NWR, the officials provide text information about the hazard and the appropriate response directly to the local NWS offices. NWS offices have set up pre-arranged agreements to facilitate and speed the process.
- # NWR and the Emergency Alert System (EAS) use the same digital protocols, and NWR is the primary means for NWS alerts to activate the EAS. The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) recently amended the EAS rules, and adopted numerous new event codes. NWS will introduce all new codes in 2003 after broadcasters have opportunity to upgrade their EAS equipment.
- # NWS invites your input regarding NWR. Please write comments to Herb White, NWS Dissemination Services Manager, at Herbert.White@noaa.gov and Chris Alex, Dissemination Services Meteorologist, at Christine.Alex@noaa.gov.

Related Web Sites:

NWS Home Page www.weather.gov or www.nws.noaa.gov
 NOAA Weather Radio Home Page www.nws.noaa.gov/nwr/
 NWS All Hazards Web Page www.nws.noaa.gov/nwr/allhazard.htm
 NWS EAS Information Web Page www.nws.noaa.gov/om/NWS_EAS.htm