

Dept. of Military Affairs: NOAA Weather Radio All Hazards Awareness Day in Wisconsin

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MADISON, Wis – Severe weather can develop quickly, making it essential to have a reliable way to receive alerts. May 4 is NOAA Weather Radio All Hazards Awareness Day and ReadyWisconsin encourages everyone to explore how they can add one of these life-saving devices to their home.

“When severe weather is in the forecast, it’s important for people to have multiple ways to receive alerts so they know when to seek shelter,” said Wisconsin Emergency Management Acting Administrator Greg Engle. “A weather radio with battery backup is an essential device for any home and we encourage everyone to make sure they have access to one.”

A NOAA Weather Radio is an automated 24-hour source of weather forecasts, watches, and warnings provided by the National Weather Service and its parent agency, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA). When an alert is issued, the devices will sound an alarm and broadcast information about the hazard. When there is no severe weather or emergency, radios can be switched to a silent, stand-by mode. Many devices also feature a battery back-up, so alerts can still be received if power is lost during a storm.

All NOAA Weather Radio Stations broadcast on one of several frequencies in the VHF Public Service band. To find the frequency for your area, visit <https://readywisconsin.wi.gov/make-a-kit/get-a-weather-radio/>.

In addition to your home, consider packing a portable weather radio with your camping or boating gear when you spend time outdoors. Weather radios can be

purchased at many retail stores or online.

A weather radio is just one of many tools that people can rely on to receive critical alerts about dangerous weather. Everyone is encouraged to have multiple ways to receive notifications, including Wireless Emergency Alerts on mobile devices, checking in with local media, and listening for outdoor warning sirens. You should never rely on a single source to receive potentially life-saving warnings.

For more tips on emergency preparedness, visit ReadyWisconsin online at <https://readywisconsin.wi.gov>. You can also follow us on Facebook (<https://facebook.com/ReadyWisconsin>), Twitter (<https://twitter.com/-ReadyWisconsin>), and Instagram (<https://instagram.com/ReadyWisconsin>).