

## Emergency Alerts

You can receive important lifesaving alerts no matter where you are.

Public safety officials use reliable systems to alert you and your family in the event of natural or man-made disasters. Many communities also offer emergency alert notifications through their own systems.

### Emergency Alert Systems

The **Integrated Public Alert and Warning System (IPAWS)**, is a modernization and integration of the nation's existing and future alert and warning systems, technologies, and infrastructure.

**IPAWS' EAS** is the message dissemination pathway that sends warnings via broadcast, cable, satellite, and wireless services. **EAS** may be used by state and local authorities, in cooperation with the broadcast community, to deliver important emergency information, such as weather information, **AMBER** alerts, and local incident information targeted to specific areas.

The **Emergency Alert System (EAS)** is a national public warning system that requires broadcasters, satellite digital audio service and direct broadcast satellite providers, cable television systems, and wireless cable systems to provide the President with a communications capability to address the American people within 10 minutes during a national emergency.

The President has sole responsibility for determining when the national-level **EAS** will be activated. FEMA is responsible for national-level EAS tests and exercises.

**EAS** is also used when all other means of alerting the public are unavailable, providing an added layer of resiliency to the suite of available emergency communication tools.

**NOAA Weather Radio All Hazards (NWR)** is a nationwide network of radio stations broadcasting continuous weather information from the nearest National Weather Service office.

**NWR** broadcasts official warnings, watches, forecasts and other hazard information 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

It also broadcasts alerts of non-weather emergencies such as national security, natural, environmental, and public safety through the Emergency Alert System.

### Social Media Tools

Promote Wireless Emergency Alerts on Twitter

Wireless Emergency Alerts are automatic texts sent to you in an emergency; no sign-up required:

If you receive a Wireless Emergency Alert, take action & check local media for more info. **#WEA**

## Local Emergency Plans

Ask local officials the following questions about your community's disaster/emergency plans.

- What hazards are most likely?
- How will I get alerts and warnings?
- What is the advice and plans for sheltering and evacuation for the hazards that may impact the community?
- Are there emergency contact numbers I should have for different situations?
- Are there opportunities for preparedness education and training?
- Does my community have a plan?
- Can I obtain a copy?
- What does the plan contain?
- How often are plans updated?
- What should I know about this plan?
- What hazards does it cover?