
Emergency Alert Radios

More than just weather

What are Emergency Alert Radios

- **NOAA's Public Alert Radio is a life-saving early warning tool that notifies radio users of all hazards in their area 24 hours a day, seven days a week, even when other means of communication are disabled**



Check for logo

- All Public Alert Radios will have the Public Alert Radio logo on the device or the box
- Public Alert Radios also may display a NOAA logo



Besides Weather, What ?



- **CEA Public Alert™ certified devices in the U.S. have the ability to recognize the following messages**

911 Telephone Outage Emergency
Avalanche Warning
Avalanche Watch
Blizzard Warning
Child Abduction Emergency
Civil Danger Warning
Civil Emergency Message
Coastal Flood Warning
Coastal Flood Watch
Dust Storm Warning
Earthquake Warning
Emergency Action Notification
Emergency Action Termination
Fire Warning
Flash Flood Watch
Flash Flood Statement

Flash Flood Statement
Flash Flood Warning
Flood Statement
Flood Warning
Flood Watch
Freeze Warning
Hazardous Materials Warning
Hurricane Statement
Hurricane Warning
Hurricane Watch
High Wind Warning
High Wind Watch
Evacuation Immediate
Law Enforcement Warning
Local Area Emergency
Nuclear Power Plant Warning
Radiological Hazard Warning

Shelter In-Place Warning
Special Marine Warning
Special Weather Statement
Severe Thunderstorm Warning
Severe Thunderstorm Watch
Severe Weather Statement
Tornado Warning
Tornado Watch
Tropical Storm Warning
Tropical Storm Watch
Tsunami Warning
Tsunami Watch
Volcano Warning
Winter Storm Warning
Winter Storm Watch

Attention-getting

- **Public Alert Radios normally provide internal voice and siren to gain a user's attention**
- **Public Alert Radios can be connected to other attention-getting devices, such as strobe lights, sirens, and peripheral alerting mechanisms to ensure that people with particular challenges can also benefit from the safeguards**

Radio configurations

- There are two (2) “basic” options
 - Desktop
 - Handheld
- Most units of both types include text message display



- Desktop sets can be Public Alert units only, or Public Alert Units with additional features
 - AM/FM receiver
 - Output to external devices (e.g. strobes, sirens, loud speakers, supplemental antennas)

Required features

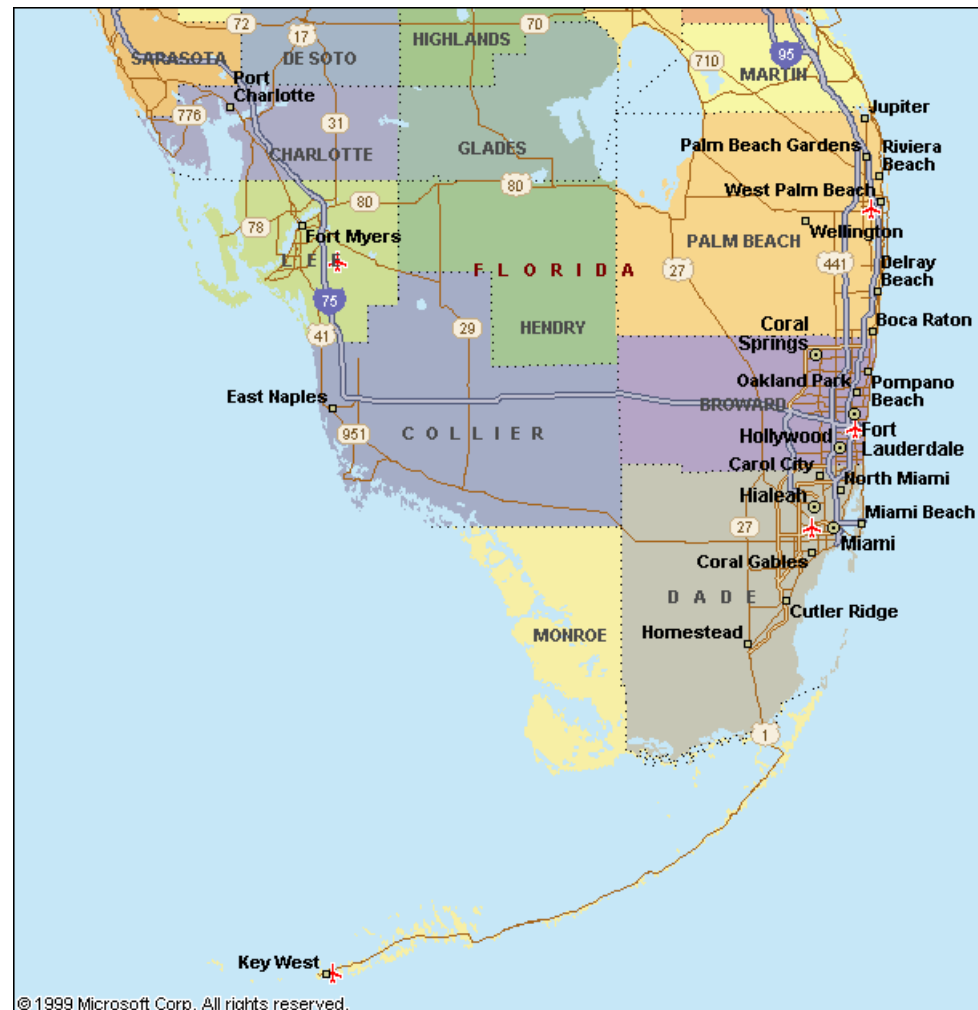
- **Alternate power source**
 - Battery backup for AC-powered units and AC chargers for battery powered units
- **S.A.M.E. technology**
 - S.A.M.E., or Specific Alert Message Encoding, filters alerts so unit responds only to alerts for specific geographic areas
- **Selectable alerting of events**
 - User may turn off alarm for certain conditions which might not be deemed important (See Slide 4 for conditions list)
- **Tone alarm**
 - The National Weather Service sends a 1050 Hz tone before most warning and many watch messages; the tone activates receivers equipped to receive it, even if audio is turned off

More about S.A.M.E.



- **Specific Alert Message Encoding (S.A.M.E.)** is the radio function which allows users to specify which area alerts are allowed (blocking all others)
- **Example: A radio at FLL*** could be set to react to alerts aimed at Dade, Broward, and Palm Beach counties while ignoring all other counties

* FLL = Ft. Lauderdale/Hollywood International airport



Manufacturers & vendors

- **Leading manufacturers or vendors of Public Alert Radios include**
 - **M** First Alert Weather Radios <http://www.simacorp.com>
 - **M/V** Midland Radio Corporation <http://www.midlandradio.com/>
 - **M/V** Oregon Scientific <http://www2.oregonscientific.com/>
 - **M/V** Reecom Electronics Inc. <http://www.reecominc.com/>
 - **V** Ambient Weather <http://www.AmbientWeather.com/noaradio.html>
 - **M = Manufacturer**
 - **V = Vendor**

For more information

- NOAA <http://www.weather.gov/nwr/nwrrcvr.htm>