

# EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS POINTER

APRIL 2021

## Severe Weather Warnings

The spring and summer months can bring a variety of severe weather threats to Ada County. Damaging wind, large hail, lightning induced wildfires, and flash flooding are always possible during a severe storm. Severe weather can often occur with limited warning. Receiving emergency messages from the National Weather Service (NWS) will help keep people and their outdoor activities safe. A NOAA Weather Radio (NWR) is a great addition to an alert and warning system for any person, home, or business.

### All Hazard Warnings Available 24/7

It's hard to imagine a time when a weather warning wouldn't come over a smartphone, tablet, or television. However, there are times when people unplug or sleep. The NWR, which usually is quiet, will sound an alarm or tone to let the owner know important information is about to follow. It fills the warning gap when nothing else is on and provides an alarm to alert a person when other things are competing for attention. Weather is not the only situation that may need rapid notification to the public. NWR broadcasts warnings and post event information for all types of hazards. Whether it is a natural (earthquake, flood, wildfire) or human-caused event or an AMBER Alert, critical information will be delivered through this device. It is an important part of the Federal Communication Commission's Emergency Alert System (EAS).



### Available Types and Models of Receivers

You can buy various types of receivers at many retail outlets including electronics, sporting goods, and boat and marine accessory stores as well as online retailers. NWS does not specifically recommend any make or model of receivers. However, they do recommend receivers with the Public Alert and/or the NOAA Weather Radio All Hazards logo. There are many options available based on what information you want to access and where you plan on accessing this information. Visit the [NWS website](#) for more information on different makes and models of NOAA Weather Radios.



### Our Most Frequent Hazard

Severe weather is the most frequent hazard in Ada County. Each year an average of two to five incidents of thunderstorm related damage is recorded within the county. Severe weather events can cause secondary problems such as utility failure and other hazards such as flooding or wildfires. Be sure to include a battery operated radio in your disaster supply kit to ensure you receive timely hazard information and alerts.

### Find Your Frequency

Once you purchase your NWR, visit the [NWS website](#) for NWR county coverage listings in Idaho. It includes information on transmitter location, call sign, and frequency so you know how you should tune your receiver based on your location.

