

Emergency Radio Frequencies

STATE OF EMERGENCY

United States. Keep this with the radio — not on a phone that may be flat when you need it.

state-of-emergency.com

LISTENING IS LEGAL. TRANSMITTING USUALLY IS NOT.

Marine, aviation, amateur and GMRS need a licence or a genuine life-threatening emergency. A false distress call diverts rescuers.

NOAA WEATHER RADIO — RECEIVE ONLY, NO LICENCE

WX1 162.400	WX2 162.425	WX3 162.450	WX4 162.475	WX5 162.500	WX6 162.525	WX7 162.550
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All seven are in MHz. Scan them all and keep whichever is clearest where you live — then write it in the box below.

OTHER ALLOCATIONS — CHECK THE RIGHT-HAND COLUMN FIRST

SERVICE	WHERE	MAY YOU TRANSMIT?
FRS — family radios	22 channels, 462 / 467 MHz	Transmit OK — no licence
GMRS	Same channels, higher power	Licence required — FCC, no exam
MURS	5 channels, 151 / 154 MHz	Transmit OK — no licence
CB channel 9	27.065 MHz	Transmit OK — emergency channel
CB channel 19	27.185 MHz	Transmit OK — road conditions
Marine VHF channel 16	156.800 MHz	DISTRESS ONLY — Coast Guard
Aviation emergency	121.500 MHz	DISTRESS ONLY — listening legal
Amateur 2 m calling	146.520 MHz	Amateur licence required
Distress beacons	406 MHz	Registered PLB / EPIRB only

Local police, fire and EMS are not listed: allocations are assigned county by county and many are encrypted.

WRITE THESE IN — NO CHART CAN KNOW THEM

My NOAA channel:

My county SAME code:

Our family channel:

Allocations and rules change. Verify against current FCC and NOAA publications before relying on this chart.

General information, not legal advice. When an emergency is underway, follow emergency services and local authorities first.

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