



PRESS RELEASE

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Contact: Jason Hoppin
Jason.Hoppin@santacruzcounty.us

OR3, 911, NWS TO TEST LOCAL EMERGENCY ALERTS

The Santa Cruz County Office of Response, Recovery and Resilience (OR3) and Santa Cruz Regional 9-1-1, in partnership with the National Weather Service, will be conducting a weather radio Non-Weather Emergency Message (NWEM) TEST on Wednesday, Oct. 5th between 1 p.m. and 3 p.m.

Weather radio alerts are able to reach residents even when electrical, Internet, cellular and other systems are unavailable or when residents are unreachable. This system supplements existing notification systems including CodeRED emergency alerts, the Zonehaven evacuation management and alerting system, emergency notifications via landlines, the local amateur radio emergency services (ARES) network and direct contact by first responders.

Santa Cruz County is an early adoption county in California to utilize NWEM alerts. National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Weather radios can be purchased at local stores or online. Please look for the logo at right.



For more information on NOAA weather alerts, visit <https://www.co.santa-cruz.ca.us/OR3/Response/PlanandPrepare/AlertNotificationApplication.aspx>.

To sign up for CodeRED alerts, visit <https://www.scr911.org/general/page/sign-reverse-9-1-1-notifications-codered>.

To look up your evacuation zone, visit <https://community.zonehaven.com>.

For more on local ARES efforts, visit <https://xczcomm.com>.