

NOAA Weather Radio

SKYWARN Training April 21 at Costick Center

To help citizens prepare for severe weather, the Farmington Hills/Farmington Emergency Preparedness Commission has made arrangements with ABC Wholesale, 29199 Orchard Lake Road, to purchase a weather alert radio at a discount. The Midland WR-100 radio normally sells for \$37, however for a limited time it is on sale for \$29.

As a bonus, ABC employees will program it with the Specific Area Message Encoding (SAME) code if backup batteries are purchased. Using SAME codes, the radio will be programmed to only sound an alarm if the alert is for Oakland County, rather than for all of southeast Michigan. Several SAME codes can be programmed if desired.

The EPC is also sponsoring SKYWARN training at 7 p.m. on April 21 at the Costick Center. The FREE training will be presented by a National Weather Service (NWS) representative.

The SKYWARN Training will cover:

- Basics of thunderstorm development
- Fundamentals of storm structure
- Identifying potential severe weather features
- What information to report
- How to report information
- Basic severe weather safety

The NWS encourages anyone with an interest in public service and other concerned private citizens to participate in SKYWARN training. Individuals affiliated with hospitals, schools, churches, nursing homes or those who have a responsibility for protecting others are also encouraged to become a spotter. Information provided by SKYWARN spotters has enabled the NWS to issue more timely and accurate warnings for tornadoes, severe thunderstorms, and flash floods.

The SKYWARN training program will be hosted by Warning Coordination Meteorologist Richard Pollman of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's Detroit Weather Forecast Office. For more information or to register, call the Costick Center at 248-473-1800.