

FRS Radios

Inexpensive, low-power 2-way hands-talkies are pretty effective line-of-sight radios. Best practice is to be on as high ground as you can and either outside or near an outside wall. They use fixed channels, and those frequencies are shared with GMRS radios, so the higher powered GMRS radios can talk with the lower powered FRS radios. When someone can't hear someone else, we can "relay" by repeating the message point-to-point. Cost is generally around \$20.



GMRS Radios

GMRS radios, requiring a no-test FCC license are 40-watt mobile radios requiring a power supply and an external antenna. They cover a wide area, and its not uncommon for them to reach 30-40 miles in ideal conditions.



A GMRS radio will cost around \$250 plus an antenna and power supply. Use them at home or in your vehicle.

Where purchase?

Suggesting Amazon.com.

Getting Involved. Getting trained.

Want to explore the world of emergency communications? Get your FCC amateur radio license? Get CERT certified?

CERT is the LAFD program to train everyone in basic first aid and survival following a major disaster. Learn more:



www.cert-la.com

Interested in becoming a licensed amateur radio operator? Regular classes in obtaining a Technician Class amateur radio license are scheduled often. Learn more:

www.areslax.org

www.laemcomm.org/training



ARES Los Angeles conducts regular drills, supports major hospitals with backup communications, and advances the art and science of emergency communications.

The Los Angeles Fire Department Auxiliary Communications Service is another City of LA amateur radio emergency communications service. Learn more:

www.lafdacs.org



EMERGENCY RADIO



What You Need To
Know About
**Using Radios
In An
Emergency**



losfeliznc.org/committees/public-health-safety/

losfeliznc.org

Why radios?

A major earthquake will disrupt everything. Cell service spotty or out. Power, water out. Driving certainly slowed. People injured. Are your neighbors OK? Where is LAPD?

Two-way radios, used between neighbors, especially neighbors who train and practice using them, **can be a life saving tool**.

What kind of radio?

FRS (Family Radio Service) handi-talkie, or **GMRS (General Mobile Radio Service)** radio. They share the same frequencies and are very effective for short distance communications, like in a neighborhood. FRS radios are very affordable (\$20+-).

Do I Need A License?

FRS radios require **no license**. Higher powered **GMRS** radios require a no-test FCC license and a \$70 fee for 10-years.

What do I say?

Plain language. No lingo or code. "This is David on Lyric Avenue. Mike do you copy?" With a GMRS license, you use your FCC-assigned call letters at the end of your conversation.

When do we practice/train?

Every **Monday evening 7pm on FRS/GMRS Channel 15**. We check in. Chat briefly. Post announcements about Los Feliz.

More Information?

Mike Hain, Chair LFNC Public Health & Safety Committee, Mike.Hain@lofeliznc.org
David Ahrendts, Co-Chair, LFNC Public Health & Safety Committee, DavidAhrendts@me.com

PREPARED NEIGHBORS

RESPONDING TOGETHER IN THE FIRST HOUR FOLLOWING DISASTER

CARE & SHELTERING

- Care for neighbors:
- With specific needs
- Who are elderly
- Who may be home alone
- With pets

SEARCH & AID

- Conduct a door-to-door check
- Provide aid to those in need
- Check on all OK/Help cards

COMMUNICATIONS

- Listen to AM/FM Emergency Stations
- Establish a neighborhood communication system

UTILITIES & SAFETY

- Shut off leaking natural gas
- Reduce the threat of fire
- Rope off hazards (downed power lines, broken glass, etc.)

NEIGHBORHOOD GATHERING SITE

CERT

HELP

OM

Learn More about Ready Your LA Neighborhood:
emergency.lacity.org/rylan/about



WHY NEIGHBORHOODS?

Disasters overwhelm 9-1-1 emergency responders (medics, fire, & police). If you have a crisis—say a loved one is seriously injured—your best source of help will be your neighbors.