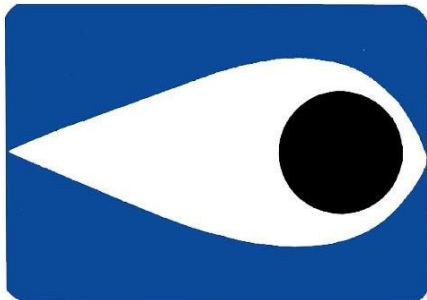




Payson Neighborhood Radio Watch



**When Cell Phone and Internet service fails, and you can't reach 911 or
Emergency Services... How Will You Keep Your Family Safe?**



WE LOOK OUT FOR EACH OTHER™

Over 50% of US Homeowners and 70% of Renters (Probably even higher in Rim Country!) depend entirely upon cell phones to stay in touch with our friends, our families, and Emergency Services. Cell phones, in turn, depend upon billions of dollars of technology not to fail. Here in Rim Country, we experience severe storms, fires, flooding events and power shutdowns – events that disrupt vital communications services and can place lives at risk.

How will you keep yourself, your family, and your friends safe in a disaster when landline, cell phones and Internet service fails? A **Neighborhood Radio Watch** Program in Payson could be the solution...

Radio for The Rest of Us

For years, Amateur Radio Operators (aka “Hams”), have used radios when normal communications fail. Radio also aids First Responders during disasters. However, it’s become increasingly critical for “The Rest of Us,” our families, our friends, and our community, to also have access to reliable communications when cell phone and Internet services fail. Getting a Ham Radio license requires passing a test beyond the interests of most. But there are radio alternatives that people can use without having to pass a test. Payson residents can learn how to use simple & affordable GMRS radios to communicate when phone and Internet services are disabled. An FCC GMRS license is like buying a fishing license. Simply pay \$35 for a 10-year license that covers your whole family and get a call sign to use on the air.

Join Our Private E-Mail List: <https://groups.io/g/TontoGMRS>

TontoGMRS.org

General Mobile Radio Service – GMRS

GMRS Radios are affordable, FM transceivers that allow you to communicate with your family and neighbors when cell phones and other means of communication are not available. Payson Neighborhood Radio Watch conducts a weekly Net to allow us to test and learn to use our radios so we are ready should we need them. There is no cost to join other than the cost of a GMRS license and an affordable radio. If you are interested in getting On-The-Air, but don't know where to start, join our Email List, or contact us (we are the Tonto Amateur Radio Association) directly by emailing TontoGMRS@gmail.com

GMRS hand held radios (NOT FRS blister pack radios sold at Walmart) cost as little as \$25 and are "Repeater Capable" meaning you communicate over much longer distances. Mobile Radios can get pricey but offer more flexibility including the ability to set-up a base station at home or office. Our members can help you decide what will work best for your needs.

Neighborhood Radio Watch Programs ARE NOT a replacement for Emergency Services such as Police, Fire, the Sheriff's Office or 911. These programs are intended solely as a backup communications solution When All Else Fails.

A Neighborhood Radio Watch (NRW) is a community-based volunteer initiative that uses two-way radio technology—typically GMRS or FRS—to connect residents for safety, security, and emergency communication when cell service fails. These groups serve as backup, not a replacement for 911, fostering neighbor-to-neighbor communication during disasters, power outages, or to report suspicious activity.

- **Purpose:** Provides a redundant, offline communication network, often supported by community-led radio repeater networks to maximize range.
- **Technology:** Primarily utilizes General Mobile Radio Service (GMRS) radios, which may require an affordable, test-free FCC license for the whole family, or license-free Family Radio Service (FRS) walkie-talkies.
- **Activities:** NRW groups often hold regular "Radio Safety Nets" (weekly check-ins) to practice communication skills, test equipment, and ensure residents are connected.
- **Function:** Neighbors use handheld, mobile, or base station radios to communicate directly without internet or cellular infrastructure.

Join our Weekly Net on Tuesday at 7 PM – GMRS CH 16R, 82.5 tone.

TontoGMRS.org