

Making Sure Your Radio Is Heard

Because of the geographic size of South County, GMRS Radio use is broken into areas called zones, where radio to radio communications can be successful. During an emergency, in order to be heard using your GMRS Radio, you need to know the zone you are in and the channels that zone is using.

Some other things to think about.

Signal Coverage

Obstructions hinder communications.

Short antenna should work around our neighborhoods.

Long antennas are more efficient. Use when communications are difficult.

Remember:

- You may need to go outside of any building or automobile you are in
- Look for an open and elevated spot
- Use an extended antenna
- You may just need to shift your location as little as 12 to 18 inches in any direction

The characteristics of these radios can make such a small position change work.

Additional Ideas:

In addition to the basic radio, added power and a better antenna will help your signal strength. It is possible to purchase a more powerful GMRS Radio. It is also possible to attach a different antenna to a GMRS radio, thus increasing the radio's effectiveness. An antenna on your car is one possibility as is one attached to your home. Contact the communications Team at <https://southcountyevc.org/contact-us-3/> if you have an interest in learning about these options.