



Alabama SAF-T-Net[®] Fact Sheet

What is Alabama SAF-T-Net?

Alabama SAF-T-Net is a free weather alerting service for the residents of Alabama. It works with smart phone apps, text messaging, email and automated voice calls.

Alabama SAF-T-Net technology focuses on the worst of each storm, not the storms as a whole. This means the weather notifications you receive are more accurate, and specific to your selected locations. In addition, you receive exclusive notifications up to 15 minutes before the storm arrives.

What weather events will trigger an Alabama SAF-T-Net alert?

You can choose to receive notifications for any of the following instances. With the exception of Emergency Management alerts, all these are optional.

- Only with Alabama SAF-T-Net: Storms are entering your area.
- Only with Alabama SAF-T-Net: Notifications when a storm capable of producing hail, damaging-winds OR flooding rains is approaching one or more of your alert locations. Each alert is accompanied with a Baron Tornado Index ranking of the storm's tornado potential.
- Only with Alabama SAF-T-Net: Notifications when a storm containing potential tornadoes is approaching one or more of your alert locations. Each alert is accompanied with a Baron Tornado Index ranking of the storm's tornado potential.
- National Weather Service Tornado Warnings (storm-based)
- National Weather Service Severe Thunderstorm Warnings (storm-based)
- National Weather Service Flash Flood Warnings (storm-based)
- Custom messages containing alert or safety information from local participating Emergency Management officials (not currently available with Alabama SAF-T-Net app)

What is the Alabama SAF-T-Net app?

The app is the easiest and most powerful way to use the Alabama SAF-T-Net service. It is designed for almost any iPhone or Android smart phone. The app is a great daily weather tool, providing current conditions, forecasts, a radar map and more, in addition to Alabama SAF-T-Net weather alerts. You can also use the app to share storm photos with your local Emergency Management officials, notifying them of approaching storms or damage that has occurred.

The Alabama SAF-T-Net can be downloaded from the Apple App Store or from Google Play.

Where do Alabama SAF-T-Net alerts come from?

Alabama SAF-T-Net was developed by Alabama-based Baron Services. We have been providing weather technologies for over 20 years. In fact, you likely have seen our VIPIR® storm tracking system on live TV weather coverage. We also manufacture Doppler weather radar systems, and have performed major upgrade work for the U.S. National Weather Service, Federal Aviation Administration and Department of Defense. Our main office is located in Huntsville, Alabama. We have about 100 employees.

How much does Alabama SAF-T-Net (the app and/or service) cost?

Alabama SAF-T-Net is a free service for residents of Alabama, although message and data rates apply. Message frequency varies with profile. Check with your cellular service provider for more details. For Alabama SAF-T-Net coverage in other areas, sign up at SAF-T-Net.baronservices.com

Does Alabama SAF-T-Net (Baron Services) sell the contact information of subscribers?

No, we do not sell any private information. To help fund development and maintenance of the service, we place small ads in the Alabama SAF-T-Net app.

Can I choose the alert types I want to receive?

Yes. Just log into your Alabama SAF-T-Net account, and click on Profile. Scroll down to the “Message filters” section, and select some or all of the alerts you would like to receive.

In the Alabama SAF-T-Net app, you can choose which alerts to receive by tapping the Alabama SAF-T-Net logo in the top-left of the app, then tapping “SAF-T-Net Alerts” in the sidebar menu that appears.

What is the difference between storm-based warnings and traditional county warnings?

A storm-based (also called “polygon”) warning is based not on the boundaries of a county, but on the boundaries and direction of an actual storm. Because this type of warning is based on the actual storm area, it is a more accurate and reliable warning for weather activity that might affect your locations.

I heard sirens. Why wasn't an alert sent?

Tornado sirens are operated by Emergency Management offices in your county, and are sounded based on National Weather Service storm-based warnings. In many areas, sirens are sounded county-wide, even though a relatively small portion of the population is truly under a warning. You will receive a storm-based Tornado Warning message only if your alert location is within the warning polygon. See the previous question for more information on storm-based (polygon) warnings.

What is the Baron Tornado Index?

The Baron Tornado Index, or BTI, provides a simplified 1-10 ranking on the likelihood of a tornado within a storm. Using sophisticated computer modeling, the patented and patent-pending BTI has proven very successful at the prediction of tornado supercells, beginning with the Super Tuesday Outbreak of February 2008.

Common Questions from Media Outlets

I want to become a media partner for Alabama SAF-T-Net. How do I get started?

We are happy to work with you. Please send an email to partner@baronservices.com.

How will Alabama SAF-T-Net benefit my audience?

Alabama SAF-T-Net is a statewide weather alerting service provided at no subscription cost to the residents of Alabama. Designed to notify those in the path of dangerous weather through mobile apps, text messaging, email or voice calls, Alabama SAF-T-Net alerts subscribers for up to four monitored locations. It allows you to provide, at no cost, a branded app, or a branded portal through which Alabama residents can subscribe to the service.

What will joining the Alabama SAF-T-Net program cost?

Absolutely nothing. You may want to allocate a budget and resources for promoting your involvement with the Alabama SAF-T-Net program, but the service itself will be provided at no cost to you or your audience.