



FIGURE 8-1:
Radio waves
frequently have
frequency.



TIP

The measure of a frequency is *cycles per second*, which indicates how many complete cycles the wave makes in 1 second (duh). In honor of Heinrich Hertz — who was the first person to successfully send and receive radio waves (it happened in the 1880s) — cycles per second is usually referred to as *Hertz*, abbreviated *Hz*. Thus, 1 Hz is one cycle per second.