



Amateur Radio EMCOMM in Clark County



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ARRL Public Service Communications

- Examples include: walk-a-thons, bike-a-thons, parades, festivals and community events.
- Time commitment is typically defined in advance.
- Equipment is minimal as well, often you will only be asked to bring a hand-held radio.
- Responsibilities may include supporting the communications needs of the community agency in such issues as crowd control efforts, first aid stations, parking, etc

ARRL EMCOMM Volunteer Guidance

- <http://www.arrl.org/readiness>
- If you're an individual Emergency Communication volunteer...
 - You need to be trained
 - You need to be equipped with sustaining skills
 - You need to prepare your family for your absence
 - You need to find ways to volunteer

ARRL EMCOMM guidance (cont)

“Once you’re prepared to go out there and give your time and expertise to an event or disaster, you need to find where you can do that. You would first want to become a member of your local ARES, CERT, RACES or local emergency management organization.”

EMCOMM Training

- **ARRL**

- **EC-001** (Member \$50.00 - Non-member \$85.00)

- **EC-016** (replaces EC-002 & EC-003 & requires ARRL membership)

- **EC-001**

- **12 On-line lessons (921 screens!) – *free!***

- **13 FEMA EMI/ISP courses required (IS-001, 100.a, 120.a, 130, 139, 200, 240, 241, 244, 250, 288, 700.a and 800.b) and IS-300 is highly desirable – *free!***

- **Need a WWA SM (Jim Pace) recommendation to take final exam - \$35.00**

EMCOMM Training

- **FEMA (on-line and classroom)**
 - Numerous EMI/ISP courses
- **CCARES/RACES**
 - FEMA courses plus...
 - Understanding of supported agency needs
 - Member Personal and Equipment Readiness
 - Network Voice message procedures
 - Digital modes/procedures

Clark County Emergency Agencies

- **CRESA** – 2 alternate & 5 sub-area EOCs
- **Fire Departments** – 10 VFD, 30 county fire
- **Police/Sheriff** – CCSO (2) , VPD (2) and ...
 - Amboy, Battle Ground, Brush Prairie, Camas/Washougal, La Center, Ridgefield & Yacolt
- **Medical** – 2 Major Hospitals
- **Non-800MHz trunked agencies**
 - Water, Power, Sewer, Port of Vancouver, etc.
- **Community Organizations Active in Disaster (COAD)**

Clark County Volunteer Organizations

- **Washington Emergency Worker Law**
- **Citizen Corps (Volunteer orgs) includes:**
 - **ARES/RACES – 12 Teams**
 - **CERT – up to 10 locations (VFD fire houses)**
 - **VMC – 4 locations**
 - **MRC – no communication req't identified**
- **Other**
 - **VPD's - NOW**
 - **Etc...**

ARES



Amateur Radio Emergency Service

ARES is activated before, during and after an emergency

The Amateur Radio Emergency Service is a national, voluntary organization of FCC licensed Hams - special radio operators who provide communications in an emergency and are organized through the American Radio Relay League.

RACES



Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Service

- **Authorized by CFR Title 47, Chapter 1 – FCC, Part 97, Subpart E, 97.407**
- **‘War Powers Act’ vs ‘Executive Order’**
- **Fenced frequencies**
- **RACES stations are limited as to who they can communicate with, which messages they may pass, and how long drills may last.**



R.A.C.E.S.

RADIO AMATEUR CIVIL EMERGENCY SERVICE

Dedicated RACES Operating Frequencies

H.F.	H.F.	V.H.F.	U.H.F
1800-1825 kHz 1975-2000 kHz 3.50-3.55 MHz 3.93-3.98 MHz 3.984-4.000 MHz 7.079-7.125 MHz 7.245-7.255 MHz 10.10-10.15 MHz 14.047-14.053 MHz	14.22-14.23 MHz 14.331-14.350 MHz 21.047-21.053 MHz 21.228-21.267 MHz 28.55-28.75 MHz 29.237-29.273 MHz 29.45-29.65 MHz	50.35-50.75 MHz 52-54 MHz 144.50-145.71 MHz 146-148 MHz	222-225 MHz 420-450 MHz 1240-1300 MHz 2390-2450 MHz

Clark County ARES/RACES

- **Membership Requirements**
 - **Willingness and Commitment to serve**
 - **FEMA courses IS-100 & IS-700**
 - **Background Check**
- **6 - Area teams**
- **1 - Net Control Team**
- **1 - CRESA team**
- **2 - Hospital Teams (SWWAMC & LSC)**
- **1 - Red Cross team**
- **1 - SAR**

Other area EMCOMM Organizations

- **MARS (Army, Navy-Marine Corps, USAF)**
- **US Coast Guard Auxiliary (USCGAux)**
- **Civil Air Patrol– CAP**
- **Several SAR organizations**
- **Adventists, LDS, & other faith based organizations**

Who coordinates all this?

- **Separate State and county EMs & EOCs**
 - CRESA for us
- **ARES/RACES**
 - ARRL W WA SM/SEC/DEC/local EC (CCARES/RACES)
 - *ARES District 1 Oregon [Clackamas, Multnomah, Washington & Columbia] ARES/RACES EC/ROs)*
- **Urban Area Security Initiative (UASI) working groups**
 - Clark, Clackamas, Multnomah, Washington & Columbia counties represented
- **Clark County Citizen Corps committee**

Clark County Information

- “911 calls you” ...
 - Landline phones only!
 - Cell phones and VoIP phones need to register at www.cresa911.org/beinformed
- Volunteer Mobilization Center (VMC)
 - Staff of 45
 - 4 Locations
 - One in Battle Ground
 - One in Orchards
 - Two in Vancouver

Spontaneous Volunteers

- Are willing and able to be called upon in a community emergency;
- Are willing to undergo training in basic courses already available from various agencies;
- Can satisfactorily undergo background checks and verification of credentials and insurance; and
- Have demonstrated they can operate as a team member.

Ham Spontaneous Volunteers

- **Ready and Willing ‘*Un-assigned*’ Hams to help in a disaster**
- **“Check in” at the VMC location**
 - Put into WA Emergency Worker Program
 - Background checked, if needed
 - Skills interview done by CCARES/RACES member
- **Dispatched by EC-RO/CRESA**
 - To CCARES/RACES EMCOMM location/s
 - Augmentation to a trained/experienced team

Clark County Information sources

- **CRESA feeds**

- www.cresa911.org
- www.cresa911.org/beinformed (* Cell and VoIP phones)
- www.cresa911.blogspot.com (via email)
- www.facebook.com/CRESA.911
- www.twitter.com/CRESA

- **Other**

- <http://flashalert.net>
- www.ready.gov
- www.emd.wa.gov
- www.swashington.redcross.org

Questions?

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