This email is going to EPA ARES SM, DECs, and ECs.

The Spring SET is planned for April 6th. With all the other exercises planned for April and May I thought it would be best to keep the SET straightforward.

The SET includes two activities.
1) WINLINK Check-in – PA hams check in with Red Cross Region using Red Cross Staff Request form.

2) ARES Alert – ECs alert their teams, collect team EMCOMM capability and send to SEC at ARES-EPA

1) WINLINK Check-in

Winlink Check-In is open to all PA amateur radio operators. Please share this plan with your Pennsylvania friends and clubs so that they can join in. (PA only please)

Participants send a Red Cross Staff Request form via WINLINK to their corresponding Red Cross Region (Greater PA or Southeastern PA).

We are exercising with the Staff Request form to prepare for the 23 May National Mass Care exercise. This form will be part of the 11 May Dry Run, the 18 May Auxiliary Station exercise and on 23 May for ARES units in NMCE activated counties as part of the NMCE exercise.

ALERT

Late on APRIL 5th SEC will send an ALERT message by WINLINK to past participants in PA SET WINLINK exercises.

ANY PA ham may participate. Hams who do not receive the ALERT message may participate.

This is the ALERT text:

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DRILL DRILL DRILL

You are invited to participate in the Spring 2024 SET.

You have been assigned to a Red Cross shelter in Independence co.
The shelter manager has asked you to send a Red Cross Staff
Request form to the local Red Cross Region.

Use WINLINK Red Cross Staff Request Form and following
information:

DR#: PA 4/2024 SET
Date: 6 APR 2024
G/A/P: DTS
Hours: 0600 to 1800
Workers: 3
Where: Independence Co Shelter
Days: 5
Needed: 10 APR 2024
Report to: Joe Smith
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Person Submitting: Joe Smith
Date Requested: 6 APR 2024
DRO Email: Joe.Smith7@RedCross.NET
Position: Shelter Manager
DRO Phone: 315-789-6418
Work Location: Independence Co
Approver: Joe Smith
Position: Shelter Manager


Send by WINLINK to ARC-SEPA if you are in Philadelphia, Delaware,
Chester, Montgomery, and Bucks County.
Send to ARC-GPA if you are in any other county.
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MODES

Any WINLINK RMS and protocol may be used. RF is encouraged but TELNET is okay.
There are no plans to support P2P or Radio Only during this exercise.

RESULTS

The exercise team will log all messages and a summery report listing participants will be prepared. A WINLINK message containing a link to the report will be sent to all participants.

2) ARES ALERT

OVERVIEW

Pennsylvania ARES ECs are alerted to an infrastructure emergency. PEMA needs to know ARES EMCOMM capability. PA SECs alert the ECs, ECs ALERT their organizations, ECs collect data on EMCOMM capability, consolidate the data and deliver it to the SEC (WINLINK ARES-EPA).

SCENERIO

A CME (Coronal Mass Ejection) has disabled Pennsylvania power and phone networks. PEMA has asked for communication support from ARRL/ARES. The EPA SEC messages the EPA ECs with a request for information. Information requested includes:
1) Who is available to support EMCOMM activities
2) What modes and how long can they operate? (Base, Deploy, VHF/UHF/HF, phone, Winlink, other), power level, antenna type.

ARES ECs alert their membership using local procedure and collect requested information.

Once collected, ECs consolidate the county information on ICS-213 and send Winlink message to SEC at tactical address ARES-EPA.

The SET runs from April 6th 0000 EDT to 2400 EDT.

ALERT FROM SEC TO ECs

The ALERT message will be sent to county ARES ECs by <u>email</u> and <u>WINLINK</u>. ECs employ their organization procedures to alert their membership and collect the requested information.

ALERT MESSAGE EXAMPLE – SEC to ECs

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DRILL DRILL DRILL

A CME event has affected the telephone and power network. PEMA has
requested help from ARES. Please report your ARES group's availability to
provide EMCOMM support.

Need to know who from your county is able to provide EMCOMM support. For
each, provide name, call, county and EMCOMM radio capabilities (Base or
Deployed, HF, VHF/UHF, antenna types, output power, etc) and duration
they can provide support (i.e. 4 to 8 hrs).

Use your local ALERT and communication procedures. Employ any form of ham
communication. VHF phone, HF, WINLINK, etc. Use telephone or email only
if absolutely necessary.

Summarize data on ICS-213. Report by end of day 7 APR 2024. Send to EPA
SEC at WINLINK ARES-EPA. Use of Winlink Telnet is okay for the response.

DRILL DRILL DRILL
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ALERT FROM ECS TO MEMBERS

ECs employ their organization procedures to alert membership and collect the requested information. ECs summarize EMCOMM capabilities on ICS-213 and send by Winlink to SEC.

Telephone and internet use is discouraged. WINLINK and other digital modes are okay. Telnet is permitted. The point is to exercise ARES team communications skills and not rely on phone/text/email.

Note – It is okay to have members reply individually or hold a net to collect their information or a combination.

ALERT MESSAGE EXAMPLE – EC TO ARES MEMBERS
(ECs can use this text or create their own)

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DRILL DRILL DRILL

A CME event has affected the telephone and power network. PEMA has requested
help from ARES. Please report your availability to support EMCOMM
operations. Use any form of ham communication (VHF phone, HF, WINLINK etc.).

Report the following:
-     Your name, call, county and EMCOMM capabilities (Base or Deployed, HF,
VHF/UHF, antenna types, output power, etc)
-     Duration you can provide support (i.e. 4 to 8 hrs)

DRILL DRILL DRILL
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ARES MEMBER TO EC MESSAGE EXAMPLE – ABLE TO DEPLOY

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DRILL DRILL DRILL

  This is KX3XYZ, Joe Smith, Independence County ARES. I can deploy and
  function for 8 hours. Capabilities include 1) VHF/UHF HT, 4 hrs battery,
  1/4 wave whip. 2) Dual Band Mobile, 50 watts, 3/4 wave whip and 30 ft
  mast with jpole. 3) HF portable, 100 watts, 30 ft mast, wire antenna, 8
  hours battery.

DRILL DRILL DRILL
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DRILL DRILL DRILL

   This is KX3XYZ, Joe Smith, Independence County ARES. I can operate base
   72 hours. Capabilities include
   1) VHF/UHF, 50 watts, jpole at 30 ft.
   2) HF, 100 watts, NVIS dipole
   3) NBEMS & WINLINK capable
   4) 72 hours generator

DRILL DRILL DRILL
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EC SUMMARY TO SEC EXAMPLE

ECs prepare this summary on ICS-213 and send, by WINLINK, to SEC. Use any WINLINK mode, RF preferred, telnet is permitted.

Include check-in message mode metrics in the EC summary. I.e. #responses via vhf simplex, vhf repeater, Winlink VHF, HF, telnet, hf phone, etc.

General Message (ICS 213)		
** THIS IS AN EXERCISE **		
1. Incident Name: WPA ARES SPRING SET DRILL		
2. To (Name/Position): Joe Shupienis W3BC WPA SEC		
3. From (Name/Position): JOE SMITH KX3ZYZ ARES EC INDEPENDENCE CO PA		
4. Subject: RESOURCES AVAILABLE TO SUPPORT EMCOMM	5. Date: 2026-04-06	6. Time: 21:00

7. Message

TOTAL 7 CHECK-INS FOR INDEPENDENCE COUNTY
4 BY VHF REPEATER
1 BY 2M SIMPLEX
1 HF 40 M
1 WINLINK FM VARA

EMCOMM SUPPORT CAPABILITIES
BASE 1 HF PHONE/WINLINK 100 WATTS, 30 FT VERTICAL, 16 HOURS EMERGENCY POWER
BASE 1 VHF/UHF 50 WATTS, 9DB BEAM AT 50FT, 8 HOURS POWER
PORTABLE 6 VHF HT, 5 WATTS, WHIP ANTENNA, 2 TO 4 HOURS
PORTABLE 2 HF 50 WATTS, PHONE, 30 FT VERTICAL, RAND WIRE
PORTABLE 2 WINLINK 50 WATTS, RND WIRE, 8 HOURS

8. Approved by: JOE SMITH KX3ZYZ	8b. Position / Title: ARES EC INDEPENDENCE CO PA
[Express Sender: W2AFE-2 Lat: 40.145833, Lon:-75.541667, MGRS:]	

9. Reply:

10. Replied By:	Position / Title:	Date / Time: