

STATEMENT OF COOPERATION

BETWEEN

COLUMBIA COUNTY EMERGENCY  
MANAGEMENT AGENCY

AND

COLUMBIA MONTOUR AMATEUR RADIO  
EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS  
(COLUMBIA & MONTOUR COUNTY ARES)

Proposed Oct 1, 2006  
(Pending Approval)

# **Amateur Radio Emergency Service Emergency Plan for Columbia-Montour Counties in Eastern Pennsylvania**

## **1. INTRODUCTION**

**1.1** The Columbia-Montour Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES) is composed of FCC-licensed Amateur Radio operators who have voluntarily registered their capabilities and equipment for public service communications duty.

**1.2** Under Federal regulations (ARES) public service communicators are furnished without compensation of any kind.

**1.3** The Columbia-Montour ARES function under this Emergency Plan are under the direction of the Columbia County Emergency Coordinator (EC), who is appointed by the ARRL Eastern Pennsylvania Section Emergency Coordinator in consultation with the District Emergency Coordinator (DEC).

**1.4** The EC may appoint assistant EC's as needed for ARES to function efficiently.

**1.5** With proper training, which imparts through individual understanding of the ARES mission, structure and organization, we are effective, proficient, and professional operators providing competent and transparent emergency communications to served agencies.

## **2. PURPOSE**

**2.1** The purpose of this plan is to provide a written guide containing the minimum information that would be needed in an emergency. Each emergency is different and flexibility to provide an adequate response to each is a necessity.

**2.2** This plan is not intended to be the "last word" in emergency operations, but to be a resource in planning and operations. Any additions, deletions, or corrections should be brought to the attention of the Columbia County Emergency Coordinator. All submissions will be given due consideration for inclusion in updates as they are needed.

**2.3** The primary responsibility of Columbia-Montour ARES is to furnish communications when regular communications fail or are inadequate.

**2.4** All drills, training and instruction shall be carried out to insure readiness to respond quickly in providing effective emergency communications whenever an occasion may arise.

**2.5** The leadership will establish and constantly improve efficient procedures for contacting other ARES members under emergency conditions and for assigning them to critical locations.

**2.6** New ARES members will be sought in order to maintain and expand our necessary capabilities.

**2.7** The following agencies could be served during a communication emergency: The Greater Berwick Area Chapter of the American Red Cross, Bloomsburg Chapter of the American Red Cross, the Berwick and Bloomsburg Hospitals, Salvation Army, National Weather Service under Columbia and Montour SKYWARN, and any other agencies requesting assistance from Columbia -Montour ARES.

**2.8** Columbia -Montour ARES may also provide public service communications to non-profit organizations sponsoring a public event to use as a training opportunity.

### **3. ACTIVATING THE PLAN**

**3.1** Any member of the Columbia-Montour ARES who for any reason suspects a communications emergency exists should monitor the assigned net for activity.

**3.2** If local telephone service is available, the EC and/or assistant EC's should be notified by telephone.

**3.3** In an emergency in which Columbia-Montour ARES might serve the community, Amateur Radio operators may be alerted by any similar official notifying the Emergency Coordinator.

#### **4. ARES MOBILIZATION PROCEDURES**

**4.1** If telephone service is available, the telephone tree will be activated.

**4.2** Upon the awareness or notification that a communications emergency exist, members of the Columbia-Montour ARES will call into the Columbia-Montour Emergency ARES NET on the 147.225/repeater, backup repeater 145.13 and 146.49 FM simplex as an alternate simplex frequency.

**4.3** The EC will assume net control or delegate another station as net control (NCS).

#### **5. DUTIES OF NET CONTROL STATION**

**5.1** The Columbia-Montour ARES Emergency Net will be called to order by the NCS.

**5.2** Members of Columbia-Montour ARES are checked into the net from their mobiles and home station to await further instructions.

**5.3** Liaison stations to the following National Traffic System nets will be assigned. Eastern Pennsylvania Phone and Traffic Net 3.917 MHZ, 6 PM, PEMA frequencies, or other emergency nets.

**5.4** Liaison to Army Mars is Andy Shecktor N3OMA at maxfax@cris.com