

From: "Jim Wades" <wb8siw@btc-bci.com>  
To: <wb8wjv@arrrl.net>  
Subject: Upcoming ARPSC Training Schedule  
Date: Thursday, August 29, 2002 11:01 PM

Gentlemen:

In an effort to provide standardized training for ARPSC members, we have implemented a scheduled of training classes to be held on an annual basis. These classes are not intended to be all-inclusive, but rather to provide a basic foundation of training for ARPSC personnel.

Whenever possible, we will conduct ARPSC meetings and training sessions on the first Saturday of the month. We do not plan to offer training during the summer months, other than that associated with the "Family Camp Out."

During our initial year, we will conduct the training primarily at locations in East and West Michigan. In our second fiscal year, we will likely add a third training location in North Central Michigan.

The class schedule, along with a brief summary of class content is offered below. My apologies for the fact that the margins do not line up (good old Bill Gates!). The schedule is also attached as a Microsoft Word File.

Please distribute this schedule to your members and local clubs.

Thank you,

Jim Wades  
ARRL SEC / State RACES Officer

-30-

*<Text version of schedule cut since formatted version follows>*

**2002 – 2003**  
**ARPSC Meeting and Training Schedule**

**2002**

October 5, 2002: ARRL Simulated Emergency Test  
October 12, 2002: District Emergency Coordinator Meeting at Benzie County  
November 2, 2002: Introduction to QMN at Ann Arbor \*  
December 7, 2002: Introduction to Disaster Telecommunications at Ann Arbor

**2003**

January 4, 2003: Introduction to Disaster Telecommunications at HES \*\*  
February 1, 2003: Introduction to QMN at HES  
March 1, 2003: Digital Communications Workshop at Ann Arbor  
April 5, 2003: Digital Communications Workshop at HES  
May 3, 2003: Field Operations Workshop – Location to be determined.  
June 7, 2003: State ARPSC meeting at Lansing

Instructions for locating classes and RSVP:

1. \* All Ann Arbor classes will be held at the Washtenaw County Chapter of the American Red Cross, 2729 Packard Rd., Ann Arbor. Packard is accessible from State Road and I-94. Please RSVP directly to the American Red Cross at 734-971-5300.
2. \*\* All “HES” (Hudsonville Emergency Services) Classes will be held at Hudsonville City Hall, 3275 Central Blvd., Hudsonville. Central Blvd is accessible from 32<sup>nd</sup> Street and I-196. RSVP to Jim Wades ([wb8siw@arrl.net](mailto:wb8siw@arrl.net) or 269-673-8845).
3. Whenever possible, ARPSC training functions and meetings will be held on the first Saturday of the Month.
4. All classes begin at 9 AM and run approximately 6 hours in length. A break for lunch is provided. *All classes are limited to 30 people or less.* Be sure to RSVP quickly to reserve a spot.

Brief Course Descriptions:

***Introduction to Disaster Telecommunications***

This course is designed to familiarize new ARPSC members with basic disaster telecommunications theory and practice. The student will learn how to apply the process of mitigation, preparedness, and response to disaster planning and response efforts. The relative merits and applications of various modes of communications are discussed in detail.

The course also covers basic net procedures, message formats, and personal preparedness issues. Classroom drills are conducted in order to familiarize the students with the methods utilized to transmit record message traffic on behalf of served agencies.

A text book and various operating aids are provided with the class.

### ***Introduction to QMN***

This course is designed to familiarize the student with the Michigan Net, QMN. All net procedures are covered in detail. The standard NTS message format is reviewed for those with limited experience in traffic handling.

Simulated radiotelegraph net sessions are conducted within the classroom utilizing US Army portable classroom equipment.

The class concludes with a demonstration of an actual QMN net session controlled from the classroom location.

### ***Digital Communications Workshop***

This course is designed to familiarize the student with the fundamentals of Packet Radio communications. Packet Radio technology is explained in a basic, non-technical manner. Applications in the field of disaster communications are discussed.

Students are introduced to the structure and facilities of the Michigan Net, QMN, Packet Radio Network.

Hands-on activities are provided so that all students have an opportunity to utilize both the QMN Packet BBS systems, as well as the QMN High Frequency PACTOR gateways. When students leave the class, they will know how to connect to local stations, set up digipeater paths, utilize nodes, and basic BBS systems. They will also know how to properly list third party traffic utilizing various BBS commands.

### ***Field Operations Workshop***

This class covers the basics of field response. Beginning with the assembly of a "jump kit," and proceeding to such specialized capabilities as portable packet radio and portable HF equipment, the class covers a wide variety of issues associated with the establishment of temporary communications facilities.

Various equipment and antenna arrangements are discussed. Problem solving exercises are conducted in class.

The course concludes with the students setting up a complete working communications center in the field.

Students should bring their own "jump kits" and portable equipment for inspection and group discussion.