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Aug 1, 2014

Dear Amateur Radio Operator:

I hope you are enjoying this fantastic hobby and service as I am. There are so many facets of Ham Radio. There is something to interest everyone, that's for sure. Digital communications, working satellites and the International Space Station, chasing DX, using old reliable Morse code, and checking into traffic and emergency nets are some of my favorite ham activities.

One aspect of Maine amateur radio that would benefit from more participation is the Amateur Radio Emergency Service®. ARES® is an American Radio Relay League (ARRL) affiliated program that brings together like-minded hams to use their communication skills and equipment for the public good. There is no charge to become an ARES member. Only certain leadership positions require ARRL membership due to the resources and expense reimbursements they may receive.

For the first time in many years Maine is close to having active ARES groups in all 16 counties. Kennebec is the sole county without an ARES program in place, although they do have a Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Service (RACES) group. All ARES groups need more members. In time of emergencies, not all ARES members may be able to assist if they, themselves, are affected by the incident, or they have family and work commitments. The more hams in the emergency communications pool, the more likelihood Maine hams will be able to effectively provide backup disaster communications when normal systems fail, as they often do after a major disaster.

You can put whatever amount of time and effort into training and operating with ARES as your situation permits. We all have busy lives; many of us have children, jobs, and other demands on our valuable time. Maine ARES recognizes that fact.

If you think you would be interested in joining ARES and lending a helping hand, and perhaps learn some more interesting and fun modes of amateur radio operations, then fill out the Maine ARES application and send it to me. I will make sure it gets to the appropriate Emergency Coordinator. (If you know hams in Kennebec County, please share this letter with them!)

Thank you for considering my invitation and I hope to meet you on the air and in person soon.

73, Phil Duggan, N1EP Maine ARES Section Emergency Coordinator

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Call: \_\_\_\_\_



## AMATEUR RADIO EMERGENCY SERVICE REGISTRATION FORM



Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State/Prov.: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip/PC: \_\_\_\_\_

Bus. phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Home phone: \_\_\_\_\_ County: \_\_\_\_\_

License Class: \_\_\_\_\_ Primary radio interest: \_\_\_\_\_

Check (✓) bands/modes you can operate:

	160	80	40	20	15	10	6	2	220	OTHER
CW										
FM										
RTTY										
SSB										
MOBILE										
PACKET										
IF OPERATING PACKET, THE CALLSIGN OF YOUR PBBS IS: _____										

Can your home station operate without commercial power?     Yes     No

If yes what bands? \_\_\_\_\_

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Detach and send to your EC (if known) or the ARRL, 225 Main St., Newington, CT 06111.

To All Radio Amateurs:

The Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES) is a voluntary organization of licensed radio amateurs who have registered their capabilities and equipment for providing emergency communications as a public service to the community. The purpose of the ARES is to furnish communications in the event of natural disaster, when regular communications fail or are inadequate. Sponsored by ARRL, the ARES functions at the local level to meet local communications needs.

The ARES has a long history of public service going back to its formal inception in 1935. Since that time the ARES has responded countless times to communications emergencies.

Experience has proven that radio amateurs respond more capably in time of emergency when practice has been conducted in an organized group. There is no substitute for experience gained *before* the need arises.

The ARES in each locality operates under the direction of the Emergency Coordinator (EC), whose function is to direct the activities of the ARES to maintain a state of readiness.

To register in the ARES, send the detachable Registration Form above directly to your EC, or to ARRL Headquarters for forwarding to your EC. *League membership is not required for registration.* Registration does not require possession of any specially designed equipment. All amateurs can be of assistance to the ARES. There is provision in the ARES for every amateur regardless of class of license, equipment owned, or personal circumstances.

Won't you join us in providing this essential Amateur Radio service?

Richard Palm, K1CE  
Field Services Manager

FSD-98(687)

Mail To: Phil Duggan, N1EP, 195 Kansas Road, Milbridge, ME 04658 or  
email [n1ep@arrl.net](mailto:n1ep@arrl.net)