



## Oxford County ARES/CERT Comm



### July 2025 Newsletter

In this newsletter:

- 1) Trek Across Maine 2025
- 2) Field Day Report
- 3) NTS training with KY2D
- 4) Horses Across Maine Report
- 5) Waterford World's Fair
- 6) Maine ARRL State Convention
- 7) OHHS Project Grad Car Show
- 8) Hall and Baldpate Mountain Airlift
- 9) September Mass Casualty Drill
- 10) Updates of Projects:
  - a) Comm Trailer
  - b) EMA radio room
- 11) Trainings available

### Trek Across Maine 2025

The 41<sup>st</sup> ALA fund raising ride is now in the history books. Thank you to all of the riders and volunteers. From the communications point of view, the ride went off smoothly. The repeaters that were used did an excellent job of reaching almost 100% of the course. It was a 'new' course with some new challenges but these were met and overcome.

### Field Day 2025 at the EMA

For our Field Day operations this year on June 28th-29th, we had scaled back from the usual number of operators in the building.

This forced us to focus on any problems that popped up and as a small team take care of these issues. We had three operators at the EMA, two on voice and one on digital. Our score was similar to last year and contacts via voice were up. This year Andy N1MRE covered the FT8 and FT4 spectrum. Tim WT1A and Wayne N1YIS covered the phone contacts using the Ic7300 on the offset 80m dipole and IC756 on the 160m endfed wire antenna.

Andy N1MRE used his Tactical Delta Loop HF Antenna by Chameleon Antennas for Field Day. He also used a vertical for his vhf contacts.



Map of states, territories and provinces contacted during Field Day

## Field Day QSO's from Oxford County EMA building W1OCA

Band	QSO	Power	QSO	Power	QSO	Power
	CW	(Watts)	Digital	(Watts)	Phone	(Watts)
160m	0	0	0	0	0	0
80m	0	0	11	100	13	100
40m	0	0	38	100	69	100
20m	0		46	100	26	100
15m	0	0	25	100	4	100
10m	0	0	1	100	0	100
6m	0	0	1	100	0	100
2m	0	0	0	0	0	0
222	0	0	0	0	0	0
432	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	0		122		112	

All contacts were made before 2:30 am Sunday when we shut down all the radios. Our operational period started at on Saturday 14:00 local time (18:00 UTC) and finished on Sunday at 2:30 local time (6:30 UTC). The addition of digital this year is something we haven't done in a long time.

## NTS training with KY2D

On the second Sunday of each month Jim KY2D is running training for the National Traffic System. He covers the procedures, the ins and outs of the system and gives stations that have checked in an opportunity to practice message handling and managing radio traffic

## Firecracker Ride Horses Across Maine

A big thank you goes to Travis KB1ZID for getting this event on July 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> underway. Thank you to KA1SG Norm, KC1DSO Susan, KE1M Mark, KU1U Cory, N1URA Simon, and W2GPJ George for all your work and support for this event. We had 8 amateur radio operators covering this event this year. It was great to see Simon N1URA take charge of the net and manage communications on Saturday. On Sunday Susan KC1DSO kept things running smoothly running net control and logging while yours truly, N1YIS, bounced between net control op and the Finish line. With the route changes from last year we had a few challenges this year. After action reports, more concise forms for reporting, and suggestions have been received. Mark KE1M developed a form for the amateur radio operators along the course to record the who and when by location. On Sunday, Susan KC1DSO had put together a spreadsheet to track the riders through the checkpoints and time as well for net control. The group and Travis will be working on mapping for everyone involved both at net control and along the course to guide the riders in the right direction for next year.



## Waterford World's Fair

The upcoming Waterford World's Fair July 18<sup>th</sup> through the 20<sup>th</sup> will have our communications trailer on display for the EMA and our group. Wayne N1YIS will be bringing the comm trailer over to the fairgrounds on Thursday. We will need at least one person to

cover Friday and another on Saturday and demonstrate some of our radios. This is a public meet and greet opportunity for our ARES/CERT Comm group. Wayne N1YIS will be moving the ARES/CERT Comm trailer back at the end of the fair.

### **Maine ARRL State Convention**

From Cory Ku1U:

Maine State Convention in Augusta Maine, Saturday August 2nd 8-Noon. Consider signing up for a table.

Clubs are encouraged to get a table as well. Great opportunity to hand out membership applications and showcase what your club is all about. Attendance and table purchases help support the Androscoggin Amateur Radio Club's programs which includes a scholarship fund. Grand Door prize will be a Yaesu FT-991A HF/VHF/UHF radio. Please consider supporting this event.

Directions and Information:

(Take I-95 Exit 112 or 112A)

Vendor Tables are \$20 per table in advance. \$25 each if purchased the day of the convention, so take advantage of advance table sales.

Commercial vendors – no vendor admission fee, contact KU1U for more information. Other vendors (not commercial) still receive a 50% discount on admission (\$5.00 per vendor, max 2 per table).

General Admission \$10 per person, 18 and younger are free. If you purchase your tickets online, they will be held for you at the Registration Table/Will Call line.

Currently the comm trailer is scheduled to be at the convention but only has a ride home. We are still looking for someone that can move it **to** the Civic Center by 7:30 am.

### **OHHS Project Grad Car Show**

August 9<sup>th</sup> we will be part of the EMS displays at the fund raiser for OHHS Project Graduation. The event is a car show. We are there to promote our ARES/CERT group, amateur radio and the

Oxford County Emergency Management Agency. The show is 10am to 2pm (14:00).

### **Hall and Baldpate Mountain Airlift**

Dana Humphrey, a volunteer with the Maine Appalachian Trail Club, reached out to Oxford County earlier this year as he did in 2023 to complete the Frye Notch Privy Airlift. This year he is working to schedule 2 airlifts, one for Hall Mountain and one for Baldpate. He worked to schedule the permits necessary to work this airlift project in the County UTs in early August 2025. Just recently we reached out to the first responder agencies that may be called on to respond to the Grafton, Andover West Surplus, and Township C UTs during the airlift and privy construction at the Hall Mountain and Baldpate locations to schedule a planning meeting for these events. There is a scheduled meeting in two weeks to determine when the actual lift will take place. Our responsibility will be to provide communications and the ARES/CERT Communications trailer as a communication base for the area that lacks cellphone service.

### **September Mass Casualty Drill**

September 20, 2025

The county is having a mass casualty drill on Saturday September 20<sup>th</sup> involving 5 fire departments and 5 different EMS departments, two (?) hospitals and us. Currently our role is limited to moving the trailer so that RCC can use it during the event, training the RCC personnel on how things work in the comm trailer, maintaining the generators (currently there is no CMP power available at the planned communication site a Sunday River resort.) There will be more details on the drill in the August newsletter.

## Updates of Projects:

### Comm Trailer

1. Fusion radio and DMR radio are on the wall awaiting coax and antennas.
2. The stabilizers on the trailer are in need of replacement. Especially the right front (door side).
3. A magnetic white board is in and needs installation in the trailer.

### EMA radio room

1. The Fusion radio and DMR radio are ready for an antenna and coax.
2. Andy N1MRE is programming the donated D-Star radio and then it too will need an antenna and coax.

## Trainings available

### Ammonia Safety & Emergency Response Training

Bangor, ME August 1st or 2nd, 2025, 0830-1630

Prepare to effectively manage ammonia incidents from start to finish. This session begins with an overview of anhydrous ammonia properties, transportation, containers, release types, troubleshooting, and response strategies. Control and containment tactics from both offensive and defensive perspectives will be covered, discussing key lessons learned through real-life case studies of stationary facilities and transportation incidents, along with live release training footage. After a safety briefing and drill preparation, the second half of the day will focus on hands-on live release training in the field, primarily emphasizing tarp and cover operations for control and containment of anhydrous ammonia.

Target Audience: First responders, other emergency responders and hazardous materials technicians PPE Requirements and registration: Go to the MEMA Website to access the flyer with registration and PPE requirements.

### G0428 Community Emergency Response Teams (CERT) Train-the-Trainer

Augusta, ME August 14-15, 2025, 0800-1700

Sign up here

This Train-the-Trainer course prepares participants to effectively deliver FEMA's Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) Basic Training. The course emphasizes conveying the CERT program's mission, including safety, teamwork, and its

role in community emergency operations. Participants will learn to create a structured yet engaging learning environment, ensure students meet training objectives, and utilize the Maine 2024 CERT Train-the-Trainer Instructor Materials.

Additionally, the course covers the CERT registration process and steps for activation. By the end of the training, participants will demonstrate their understanding of the CERT Basic Training curriculum, apply effective classroom management and teaching techniques, and successfully present assigned course sections. Instructors will also model the core values of CERT and foster a positive learning experience for future responders.

Prerequisites: IS-100.b, IS-200.b, CERT Basic Training Course or current first responders may substitute IS-317, & IS-315 (recommended)

### PER-213 Wide Area Search

Augusta, ME September 9-11, 2025

When disaster strikes it can be a challenge to effectively mobilize, organize, and deploy resources needed to perform search and rescue operations. The purpose of this course is to prepare participants to support a large search and rescue incident in a variety of roles ranging from searchers in the field, planning and support staff, and incident command. While built around the model of a large search and rescue event following a disaster, the course content applies to a vast number of critical situations including missing persons searches, natural disasters, terrorist incidents, and other scenarios.

This course exposes participants to a search management system focused on resource management and search documentation designed to conduct search operations efficiently and effectively. The instructor cadre will lead participants through facilitated discussions, table-top exercises, and hands-on activities in practical search skills and search management based on real world scenarios. The three-day long event concludes with a table-top exercise which requires participants to utilize the skills gained during the course to work through an incident from start to finish in a single operational period. The instructor cadre are experienced search and rescue team members from the Federal Urban Search and Rescue System (FEMA US&R), State, municipal, and Volunteer teams. They bring a wealth of experience gained responding to some of nation's largest and most challenging operations.

Target Audience: This course is limited to Public Safety/SAR personnel. For more information, please contact [memapreparedness@maine.gov](mailto:memapreparedness@maine.gov).

### K0427 Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) Program Manager

Virtual Multiple Dates

[https://training.fema.gov/netc\\_online\\_admissions](https://training.fema.gov/netc_online_admissions)

### K0428 Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) Train the Trainer

Virtual Multiple Dates

[https://training.fema.gov/netc\\_online\\_admissions](https://training.fema.gov/netc_online_admissions)