

Oxford County **ARES**/CERT Comm

Newsletter

May 2023

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Field Day Plans

Field Day Plans for this year are different again. The EMA office will be active for most of the time during the event. We have several members of the group that will be operating from different locations in the county. At this time, I hope to have at least one HF and one VHF/UHF station active in the EMA radio room.

The Second Quarter Maine ARES SET

There will be a Maine Quarterly SET drill happening on Saturday as well. The quarterly drill is three short sessions at 3 pm, 5 pm, and 7pm.

QST de W1AW
Special Bulletin 1 ARLX001
From ARRL Headquarters
Newington CT May 16, 2023
To all radio amateurs

SB SPCL ARL ARLX001
ARLX001 **National Hurricane Center Amateur Radio Station Annual Test**

The amateur radio station of the National Hurricane Center, WX4NHC (NHC), located on the campus of Florida International University in Miami, will conduct their on-the-air Annual Communications Test on Saturday, May 27, 2023, from 9 AM - 5 PM EDT (1300z-2100z).

This is the NHC's 43rd year of public service. NHC Amateur Radio Assistant Coordinator Julio Ripoll, WD4R/WX4NHC, reports that the purpose of this event is to test amateur radio equipment and antennas at the NHC as well as operators' home equipment, antennas, and computers prior to this year's hurricane season. The 2023 hurricane season begins June 1 and runs through November 30.

This event is good practice for amateur radio operators worldwide to practice amateur radio communications during times of severe weather.

Ripoll said WX4NHC will be on HF, VHF, UHF, 2- and 30-meter APRS, and Winlink. To contact the NHC's

amateur radio station send an email to, wx4nhc@winlink.org. The subject of the email must contain //WL2K.

The Hurricane Watch Net will try to stay on 14.325 MHz for most of the time, as well as 7.268 MHz depending on propagation. They may also change frequencies due to potential QRM.

You may be able to find WX4NHC on HF by using one of the DX spotting networks, such as the DX Summit website at, <http://www.dxsummit.fi> .

The VoIP Hurricane Net will also be active from 4 PM - 5 PM EDT (2000-2100z), on IRLP node 9219/EchoLink WX-TALK Conference node 7203. Visit their website at <https://voipwx.net> for more information.

WX4NHC will also make a few contacts on local VHF and UHF repeaters, as well as the Florida Statewide Amateur Radio Network (SARnet) system to test station equipment.

QSL cards are available via WD4R with a self-addressed stamped envelope. More information about the NHC is available at their website <https://w4ehw.fiu.edu/> .
NNNN
/EX

HERMON HAMFEST is JUNE 3rd not the 10th as reported in QST

Hamfest Correction from N1EP Phil Duggan Maine SM

The June QST has an error regarding the date of the HERMON HAMFEST. The correct date is Saturday, June 3 at the Hermon High School. This will be a fun hamfest, rain or shine. An antenna launching competition is scheduled, along with VE exams, tailgating and more. Check out https://n1me.org/home/hamfest_2022.php for more details.

Trek Across Maine - ALA

The Trek Across Maine will be June 15th – June 18th.

FCC **Requiring** ALL stations to have a MPE

Excerpt from ARRL website*

Most hams will not have difficulty meeting the requirements. In fact, most hams are already in compliance with the maximum permissible exposure (MPE) levels. Some fear, however, that they'll have to do difficult measurements, perform extensive calculations or file paperwork with the FCC. Wrong on all counts. The evaluation is often as easy as using tables to determine that your antenna is far enough away from people.

Who Can Do the Evaluation?

The FCC is relying on amateurs to perform their own station evaluations. Other than a simple statement on Form 610, the FCC does not require any paperwork from amateurs; once the evaluation is complete, the amateur can begin operation

What is in Bulletin 65?

Let's take a look at what is found in Bulletin 65 and Supplement B. This article can't reprint the bulletin in its entirety, but it is [available for download](#) from the FCC.

While precise, scientific measurements could be used, most hams will probably "pass" using one of the easier methods.

You can estimate compliance by using:

- Tables developed from power-density and field-strength formulas.
- Tables derived from antenna modeling.
- Antenna modeling software (*NEC*, *MININEC*, etc.)
- Power-density and field-strength formulas
- Software developed from power-density and field-strength formulas.
- Calibrated field-strength measurements.

Software

The calculations used to create the far-field tables have been written into BASIC by Wayne Overbeck, N6NB. This software has been written into a [Web-page calculator](#) by Paul Evans, VP9KF.

Brian Beezley, K6STI, has made a scaled-down version of his *Antenna Optimizer* software available. Download [NF.ZIP](#). These programs are based on *MININEC* and will generally give the same results as you can obtain from using [Table 6](#) or [Table 7](#). Contact Brian Beezley, K6STI, 3532 Linda Vista Drive, San Marcos, CA 92069; tel 760-599-4962, e-mail k6sti@n2.net.

Roy Lewellan, W7EL, offers [EZNEC](#) antenna modeling software.

* <https://www.arrl.org/fcc-rf-exposure-regulations-the-station-evaluation>

Trailer Mast Replacement

We have submitted a grant for replacing the ailing air mast on the front of the trailer. A huge thank you to Allyson our EMA Director for putting the grant together from our information.

The current aging air mast has developed unique and albeit unsafe quirks that usually render it unusable. If we are awarded the grant from Homeland Security, the earliest of the purchase would be November of 2023.

Work Day Reports

April Workday Report

We had a very successful productive morning with Norm KA1SG, Mark KE1M, Brian W1BKW, John WQ1W and yours truly at the trailer site.

After some work Mark had the zipper on the door going up and down as does the door.



The generators have been run and load tested.

The group worked on the HF antenna and relocated it, put up, and tested. The hole in the trailer roof that had been temporarily patched is now permanently patched. (If I missed something guys feel free to add.) Then we went to the green house to straighten the HF end fed antenna. This was done and the radio checked.

Plans have been made for the next couple trailer site work days to fasten a 2x12 and 2x4 to the back panel to control the movement. Take down the upper inner panels in the trailer where the coax and wires to clean and replace any damaged wires/coax. Also finish greasing the wheel bearings and air up the tires.

May WorkDay Report for May



Norm KA1SG assisted moving the console's front frame into the EMA building. He assisted in the assembly and gluing. Since I had left the clamps home, we used the Astron "clamps" to keep things in place.

May Workday Report for May 13, 2023

We had a very successful productive morning with Bob N1WJO, Mark KE1M, Brian W1BKW, John WQ1W and yours truly at the trailer site.

Mark, Brian and John secured the back of the shelter with a 2x12 and a 2x4 by fastening it to the concrete pad. Also Bob removed the over headpanels in the trailer to physically check the feedlines to the antennas.

While he was checking the coax, John and Wayne assisted in the cleaning of the panels.



May WorkDay 2 – May 15, 2023

Brad N1GZB brought over his portable tablesaw and cut the panels for the front and shelves of the radio console.

He and Wayne installed the sliding locks for the uprights on the front frame of radio console.

