



Oxford County ARES/CERT Comm April 2025 Newsletter

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Radio installation

We have several radios that need to be installed at the EMA and one in the Communications trailer. The mounting masts for the EMA radios are currently in the shipping boxes in the radiator room. The Fusion radio is on the desk without coax going to the antenna which is in the radiator room as well.

The DMR radio has not been installed and is in the radiator room. We have sections of used coax in the building that should be tested and connected.

I (Wayne N1YIS) have a D-Star radio that I will be loaning to the group until we have new unit to install. At this time, this radio will need coax, a ground strap, antenna and antenna mount. Since these three radios (Fusion, DMR, and D-Star) will be line of sight to Streaked Mountain a quarter wave ground plane should suffice.

At the Monday night meeting, let's schedule a work day for early in April.

Training Event for August 2025

Allyson had mentioned in a meeting in February that we have the opportunity to participate in drill in August. The Maine Appalachian Trail Club helicopter lift north east of Grafton Notch that will occur sometime in August. It will involve the agencies that may be called on to respond to the Grafton, Andover West and Andover North Surplus UTs during the airlift and construction at the Frye Notch Lean-To. Our involvement would be to deploy the comm trailer to assist in communications. The location has limited to no cellular service, so radios and the SAT phone will be the primary means of communication.

Drone Symposium

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Brittany O'Neil** <oneil@cumberlandcounty.org>

Date: Fri, Mar 14, 2025 at 4:45 PM

Subject: Southern Maine Drone Symposium - April 15th

To:

Cc: Perreault, Todd <ema@bridgtonmaine.org>, Michael Chaine

<mchaine@bridgtonmaine.org>

Good afternoon,

Join the Bridgton Police Department, Bridgton EMA, and Cumberland County EMA at the Southern Maine Drone Symposium on April 15th! This will be a night of knowledge sharing, professional discussion, and collaboration among current and future drone pilots. All first responders are welcome, regardless of experience level. Dinner will be provided.

When: April 15th, 2025, 5PM-7PM

Where: Pleasant Mountain Ski Lodge, 119 Mountain Rd, Bridgton, ME 04009

Register: <https://forms.gle/1nGqi4orGRxnB9gZ9>

****please register by April 9th****

For any questions, contact Sgt. Michael Chaine, Bridgton PD (mchaine@bridgtonmaine.org), Todd Perreault, Bridgton EMA (ema@bridgtonmaine.org), or Brittany O'Neil, CCEMA (oneil@cumberlandcounty.org). Feel free to share with others who may be interested.

Thank you,

Brittany O'Neil
Response Coordinator
Cumberland County Emergency Management Agency
Office: 207-892-6785

Training Available through MEMA

Upcoming Courses

MEMA Mass Care Cooling and Warming Center and Disaster/Emergency Sheltering Course
Virtual April 24, 2025, 1300-1500 or 1800-2000
MEMA Mass Care will offer a 2.0 Hour Cooling and Warming Centers and Disaster/Emergency Sheltering Course for Local, County and Tribal Emergency Management, Municipal Agencies, and Community Organizations. The course has been created to provide staff and volunteers with information on best practices for preparing, setting up, and managing Cooling and Warming Centers and Disaster/Emergency Congregate Shelters.
Complete the below form and return to Bill Guindon at billguindon@maine.gov
[Cooling/Warming/Sheltering in a mass care 2025 registration form 2.docx](#)

Additional course dates: May 15, June 25

ICS-400 Advanced Incident Command System for Complex Incidents MGT 905
Wiscasset, ME April 3-4, 2025, 0800-1600
[Sign up here](#)

ICS-400 is intended for an audience of experienced responders and other senior emergency management personnel or those who may perform in a management capacity for major or complex incidents. Although this is an advanced ICS course and includes creation of Area Command, it is not intended to develop mastery of area command. This course aims to expose students to the concepts of utilizing area command in major and complex incidents.
Prerequisites: IS-100.b, IS-200.b, IS-700.a, IS-800.b, and ICS-300

Hosted by Lincoln County EMA ema@lincolncounty.me

ICS-300 Intermediate Incident Command System for Expanding Incidents MGT 904
Alfred, ME April 23-24, 2025, 0800-1630
[Sign up here](#)

This advanced Incident Command System (ICS) course builds on foundational ICS training, equipping personnel with the skills to manage expanding incidents. Participants will learn how the **National Incident Management System (NIMS)** supports incident command, apply ICS processes in supervisory roles, and develop an **Incident Action Plan (IAP)** for a simulated Type III incident.
Target Audience: Individuals who may assume supervisory roles in incident management.
Prerequisites: IS-100.b, IS-200.b, IS-700.a, and IS-800.b

Hosted by York County EMA ema@yorkcountymaine.gov

Shelter Operations Course
Acton, ME May 6, 2025, 1800-2000
[Sign up here](#)

This is an introductory course intended for any staff or volunteers who will be planning for and/or working in a shelter following a disaster.
This course will cover best practices for disaster sheltering, including pre-disaster planning, health, security, and safety considerations, as well as the staffing and support resources needed to open shelters. It will also address documentation and feeding considerations, equipment needs, demobilization, and more.

Hosted by York County EMA ema@yorkcountymaine.gov

State Of Maine ARES & ARRL

From Phil N1EP ARRL SM

MECN

The Maine Emergency Communications Net now meets twice a month. The second Sunday is the training net which will focus on radiograms and the National Traffic System initially, and eventually branch into ICS-213 message form procedures and Amateur Radio Emergency Service training.

Maine NTS and ARES are teaming up to provide this training. All are welcome. The first MECN training net will be Sunday, April 13 at 5PM on or near 3.940 MHz. Maine Section Traffic Manager Jim Kutsch, KY2D, will conduct the radiogram training. Much appreciation to Jim and Maine ARES Section Emergency Coordinator Derrick Ouellette, KW1A, for their teamwork and other efforts for the Maine ARRL section. The 4th Sunday is

the regular MECN for Emergency Coordinators and other leadership and ARES/NTS members to discuss and plan emergency preparations and related topics. Same frequency, same time.

Ellsworth Ham Radio Symposium **April 5th 2025 - Noon to 4:00 pm EDT**

Did you know that the first non-military and non-commercial satellite put into orbit was built by Amateur Radio operators? Did you know that this was accomplished in 1961?!

Amateur Radio operators have been involved with satellites from that moment on. Today there are 15 active amateur radio satellites in orbit and more on the way. Even the International Space Station is equipped with two amateur radio stations onboard.

Follow Jeff Hanscom, KA1DBE, through his keynote presentation as we learn about the history, the achievements, and how to actually track and talk to someone through and Orbiting Satellite Carrying Amateur Radio (OSCAR).

Also featured at the symposium are:

- Raspberry Pi 5 For Radio Amateurs by Phil Duggan, N1EP,
- Create a digital voice hotspot (Fusion, DMR, DSTAR) using a Raspberry Pi Zero 2 and WPSD, by Guy Mason, KNoO, and
- Emergency Preparations for the Ham Shack, by N1EP.

The symposium is Saturday, April 5 from noon until 4PM. Admission is by donation (any amount) and will benefit the host facility.

The location is:

Meadow View Apartments Phase IV Dining Hall,

25 Tweedie Lane, Ellsworth.

Talk-in is on the 146.910- (pl-151.4) repeater.

Door prizes and refreshments.

ARES & ARRL National news:

2025 ARRL Ham Radio Open House

ARRL Ham Radio Open House is designed to help promote amateur radio science and technology, and to honor the 100th anniversary of the International Amateur Radio Union (IARU). ARRL is inviting radio clubs and schools to organize a Ham Radio Open House in April, centered around World Amateur Radio Day on April 18, 2025. The event is intended to highlight the Amateur Radio Service for its development and practice of the latest radio communications and technology, and as a hands-on pathway into science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) fields for the next generation.

ARRL has been working with [HamSCI](#) and [SciStarter](#) to develop and promote this event as a way for members of the public to engage with local amateur radio clubs as part of [Citizen Science Month](#). SciStarter is hoping to generate and document 1 million acts of science — HamSCI and ARRL see ham radio as a great way to accomplish that.

For video please see: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8BcotYVr96U>

State of Maine Meeting Notes:

State ARES EC Meeting Thursday 27-March-2025
Called to Order 1803hrs

- 1) Phil talked about team work with ARES and NTS. MECN will now be twice a month, the second Sunday will be NTS and Traffic training, the fourth will be the regular net. First training will be Sunday April 13 th at 1700 on or around 3.940
- 2) ARRL is seeking comments on the FCC "Delete, Delete, Delete" This would be a time to put in suggestions to change some of the regulations. Needs to be put in by April 11.
- 3) Derrick is going to do a reoccurring event for MECN
- 4) Bob Gould liaison for MEMA, talked on ARES and MEMA. Lost ham station due to water break.
 - Still looking into the replacement of equipment.
 - They are looking to hook up a couple of ham in the box kits.
- 5) Have not worked yet on addition people, working on guidelines for people coming in.
 - Looking at having 4 to 6 people on the team.
 - Hope to have guidelines finalized in a month or so, then will start looking for operators.
- 6) State wide plan was approved through ARRL
- 7) Have not heard much from Canadian counterpart, need to have a couple different approvals.
- 8) Andrew commented on how MEMA personnel should be licensed, commented on how most County EMA have licensed personnel
- 9) Kennebec looking to get a team together,
- 10) Piscataquis is looking to get a team, and the EMA dir and dep director are looking to get licensed
- 11) Derrick talked about the working with your EMA article he drafted. Talks about getting together with your EMA director and seeing what you can do to help, and let them know what your capabilities are.
- 12) James hit the highlights of the article
- 13) Had a great discussion on EmComm, getting volunteers, what is stopping people from volunteering, and how can we engage more operators involved.
- 14) Tuesday was a ARRL EC meeting. They are pushing the form 4 and form 2 online. It is a good way to track hours,

and also see the involvement and help with justifying grants and other things. It is also used to fight for band privileges, and allocation. Derrick showed how to do the Form 2 online.

- 15) ARRL is coming out with a new leadership guide. An Advanced EmComm Course will be out in the fall.
- 16) Hurricane Conference and Amateur Radio conference.
- 17) Derrick showed some pictures of the flooding in Aroostook county from the past couple weeks. Aroostook ARES Team is on stand-by due to this
- 18) Adjourned 1900hrs

Respectfully Submitted
James Jalbert KC1ECV ME-ASEC