

## *Oxford County ARES/CERT Comm* *March 19, 2020*



Web site: <https://www.n1yis.org>

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### ***The Virus***

Current information on the status of the virus is available on the web at: <https://www.maine.gov/dhhs/mecdc/>

As you have heard time and time again we need to practice “social distance”. One of the strengths of Amateur radio is that we do most of our communication via radio away from each other. With that being said – please stay safe!

### **Governor Declares a Civil Emergency**

### **Maine ARRL Convention Postponed**

### **Dayton Hamvention Cancelled**

### **Harp Net Cancelled**

The last thought is from the World Health Organization:

#### **DO THE FIVE**

- Help stop coronavirus
- 1 HANDS Wash them often
- 2 ELBOW Cough into it
- 3 FACE Don't touch it
- 4 FEET Stay more than 3ft apart
- 5 FEELSick? Stay home

### ***The EMA and the Courthouse***

At the present time access to the building is closed everyone except employees that work in the building. In addition, the Regional Communications Center was closed this past Monday to everyone save for RCC employees.

Once the world is back to more ‘normal’ operations, we will have projects to prepare our gear that is currently disconnected.

### ***The ARES/CERT Comm Trailer***

This year we have on the schedule to have the trailer relettered, the existing laptop replaced and the used supplies replaced.

## ***Training***

In our face to face meetings, we had several people that hadn't completed the FEMA courses. If you haven't completed or would like to take the FEMA IS and ICS courses, here are the links:

IS 700 An Introduction to the National Incident Management System.

<https://training.fema.gov/is/courseoverview.aspx?code=IS-700.b>

IS 800 National Response Framework, an Introduction

<https://training.fema.gov/is/courseoverview.aspx?code=IS-800.c>

ICS 100c Introduction to the Incident Command System

<https://training.fema.gov/is/courseoverview.aspx?code=IS-100.c>

ICS 200 Single Resources and Initial Action Incidents

<https://training.fema.gov/is/courseoverview.aspx?code=IS-200.b>

ARRL's EC-001 Introduction to Amateur Radio Emergency Communications (a no-cost program)

<http://www.arrl.org/ceps/ec-001-321>

Some other items we should have in our 'tool kit' include:

FLdigi

SSTV

This from ARRL ARES E-letter March 18, 2020

*Winlink Videos Help New and Experienced Operators*

To help Winlink's novices overcome software fright when operating Winlink Express for the first time, San Diego, California ARES created a series of 24 short videos to help newcomers find the right button to click in the Express software menus. The topics of the short videos range in difficulty from simple, such as sending a Winlink email to a Gmail account, to challenging, such as using software tools to locate a neighbor operating in the vicinity. The 24 videos range in length from one to five minutes and cover the tasks that a deployed operator might be expected to accomplish in the field.

The video content gives operators experience sending messages with and without attachments such as ICS forms. The videos provide tips for creating neatly-formatted, automatically-generated ICS Form 309 Communication Logs for submission to served agency officials.

The San Diego ARES Winlink video playlist is open to the public and can be viewed [here](#).

## ***Laptop for the Trailer***

We have been researching a replacement laptop for the trailer. Our current is more than 10 years old and updates are either unavailable or soon to be discontinued. There was a recommendation to have a 17" screen size. With Ham software still on CD's and DVD's, we looked for units with an internal optical drive.

## ***Events & Other Notes***

**March 23 On Air Net @ 19:30 local time 146.88 Net**

**March 30 On Air Net @ 19:30 local time 146.88 Net**

## **April 2020**

**April 6 \*Monthly Meeting - Please note: At this time the meeting will be On the Air starting at 19:30 local time due to EMA access limitations. Please check on the 146.88 repeater and the W1OCA/W1IF/N1BBK repeater system for updates and changes.**

## ***From the ARRL Website- Maine Section***

PIC Joy Lynne Foss, K1SEW : Email: [k1sew@arrl.net](mailto:k1sew@arrl.net)

**The 2020 Maine 2 Meter FM Simplex Challenge** takes place

**Saturday, March 28th** from 12PM - 4PM Getting started is easy!

Choose a power level and either fixed or mobile. The Exchange is 3 items: your call sign, the name of the city, village, town, or township you are operating from, and your power level. Contacts with an EOC, SKYWARN, Red Cross, or other served agency station are worth 2 points each! Check out the official rules for more details go to the link that is on e the maine section web page.  
<http://www.ws1sm.com/2-Meter-Challenge.html>

## **VOLUNTEERS**

The 2020 Piscataquis River Race has been CANCELLED

## **Projects**

### **A Note from the March 2nd 2020 Meeting:**

We had a discussion on the purchase of a new laptop for the ARES/CERT Comm Trailer. While we didn't make any concrete decisions at the meeting, Mark N1SNP brought up the topic of micro computers. He had been looking at the ODROID-XU4 from ameriDroid. This inspired me to do a little research in this area. The links below are some of the branches I have followed.

The links below contain just a few of some of the project computers available.

Comparison of 5 mini/micro computers

<https://www.hackerboards.com/compare/337,358,84,58,251/>

Odroid units

<https://www.hackerboards.com/compare/337,84,76,240,239/>

Raspberry Pi Units

<https://www.hackerboards.com/compare/358,251,103,301,28/>

ASUS and Arduino/pcDuinos

<https://www.hackerboards.com/compare/156,226,58,32,16/>

Fruit PI's (many different versions too)

<https://www.hackerboards.com/compare/348,127,280,157,186,398/>

Intel Atom boards

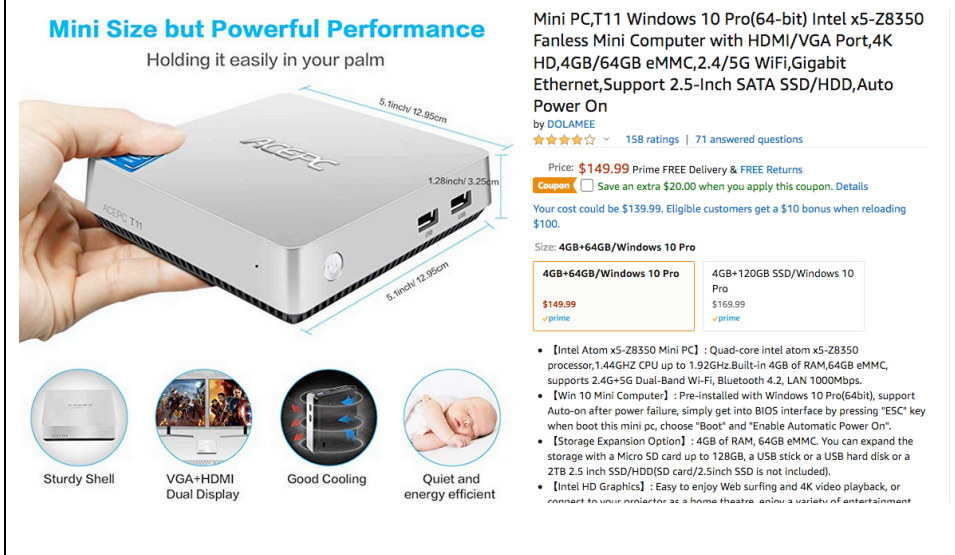
<https://www.hackerboards.com/compare/348,281/>

So after looking at the project boards and using Raspberry Pi's for years, I was intensively curious about commercially available ready-to-go units.

The range of these mini computers is quite large. Being frugal (cheap), I originally looked for units for under \$100 plug and play. While there are units at this level the limitations were extensive for ham software.

The ACEPC T11 was in my second search for units under \$150. The **PC**Intel Pro I picked up was a special daily deal for under \$90.

These are the 2 units I am working on for a Packet station. I was looking for a low cost, low power consumption, flexible unit.



**Mini Size but Powerful Performance**  
Holding it easily in your palm

5.1inch/12.95cm  
1.28inch/3.25cm  
5.1inch/12.95cm

Mini PC,T11 Windows 10 Pro(64-bit) Intel x5-Z8350 Fanless Mini Computer with HDMI/VGA Port,4K HD,4GB/64GB eMMC,2.4/5G WiFi,Gigabit Ethernet,Support 2.5-Inch SATA SSD/HDD,Auto Power On  
by DOLAMEE  
★★★★☆ 158 ratings | 71 answered questions

Price: **\$149.99** Prime FREE Delivery & FREE Returns  
Coupon  Save an extra \$20.00 when you apply this coupon. Details  
Your cost could be \$139.99. Eligible customers get a \$10 bonus when reloading \$100.

Size: **4GB+64GB/Windows 10 Pro**

<b>4GB+64GB/Windows 10 Pro</b> \$149.99 prime	<b>4GB+120GB SSD/Windows 10 Pro</b> \$169.99 prime
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- [Intel Atom x5-Z8350 Mini PC] : Quad-core intel atom x5-Z8350 processor,1.44GHz CPU up to 1.92GHz,Built-in 4GB of RAM,64GB eMMC, supports 2.4G+5G Dual-Band Wi-Fi, Bluetooth 4.2, LAN 1000Mbps.
- [Win 10 Mini Computer] : Pre-installed with Windows 10 Pro(64bit), support Auto-on after power failure, simply get into BIOS interface by pressing "ESC" key when boot this mini pc, choose "Boot" and "Enable Automatic Power On".
- [Storage Expansion Option] : 4GB of RAM, 64GB eMMC. You can expand the storage with a Micro SD card up to 128GB, a USB stick or a USB hard disk or a 2TB 2.5 inch SSD/HDD/SD card/2.5inch SSD is not included.
- [Intel HD Graphics] : Easy to enjoy Web surfing and 4K video playback, or connect to your projector as a home theatre, enjoy a variety of entertainment

Sturdy Shell  
VGA+HDMI Dual Display  
Good Cooling  
Quiet and energy efficient



Fanless Mini PC, Intel x5-Z8350 HD Graphics Mini Computer, Windows 10 64-bit, DDR3L 2GB/32GB eMMC/4K/2.4G/5G WiFi/BT 4.2

by SMALLRT  
★ ★ ★ ★ ☆ 420 ratings | 241 answered questions

Price: **\$109.99** Prime FREE Delivery & FREE Returns  
**Coupon** Save an extra \$10.00 when you apply this coupon. Details  
Your cost could be \$99.99. Eligible customers get a \$10 bonus when reloading \$100.

Size: **2GB+32GB/Windows 10 Pro** | 4GB+64GB/Windows 10 Pro

**2GB+32GB/Windows 10 Pro** \$109.99 Prime  
**4GB+64GB/Windows 10 Pro** \$149.99 Prime

- [Intel Atom Processor] Quad-Core Intel Atom x5-Z8350 Processor. It's base operating frequency 1.44 GHz/s rising to a 1.92 GHz in burst mode
- [Storage Expansion Option] 2GB of RAM, 32GB of Storage. You can expand the storage with a Micro SD card up to 128GB, a USB stick or a USB hard disk.
- [Small But Powerful] 4K HD for visually home entertainment, perfect for home office, Internet surfing, watching movies, or simply browsing the web.
- [Windows 10 OS] Pre-installed with Windows 10 Pro(64bit) OS.Support Auto-on after power failure(1.Hit ESC when power up 2.Enter Bios and set Power On)
- [I/O Specifications] 2x USB 3.0, 1x HDMI, 1x Headphone/Mic Combo Interface, 1x 1000 Mbps Ethernet Port, 1x Micro SD Card Slot etc.

Windows 10 preinstalled | Intel Atom x5-Z8350 | 4K HD | 2GB+32GB

Compare with similar items

These units are smaller than 6"x6"x1.25" and can be mounted on the back of monitors and TV's.

The ACEPC 11 has room for a 2.5" SATA III SSD or HDD. As I said I am currently working to see how well these run SarTrack, APRS.fi, Fldigi, SSTV, WinLink and other packet software and on dual monitors.

If you have had experience with other micro's and wish to share please email me at n1yis@arrl.net.

From Allyson Hill, our EMA Director:

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
OXFORD COUNTY**

The County of Oxford is temporarily closed to the public in order to keep our employees as secure as possible so that county business can continue. At this time, the offices inside are staffed and are taking calls and emails during business hours (8:00am - 4:00pm Monday - Friday). Please see the contact list provided below.

More information regarding specific departmental resources can be found on our website's homepage at www.oxfordcounty.org under "Public Closing Information"

This decision was not easy for the Commissioners to make, but they felt it was the right decision to keep our employees healthy so that business can continue to operate. The closing will last until further notice and will be evaluated on a weekly basis.

**Emergency Management Agency (EMA)**

207.743.6336 or ema@oxfordcounty.org

**District Attorney's Office**

207.743.8282 or mariah.castonguay@maineprosecutors.com

**Administration and Finance**

207.743.6359 or info@oxfordcounty.org

**Maintenance**

207.743.6517 or maintenance@oxfordcounty.org

**Regional Communications Center (RCC)**

207.743.9554 or ddurrah@oxfordcounty.org

**Registry of Deeds**

207.743.6211 or ccrockett@oxfordcounty.org

**Probate Office**

207.743.6671 or jdilworth@oxfordcounty.org

**Sheriff's Office**

207.743.9554 or dpetrie@oxfordcountysheriff.com

**County Jail**

207.743.5870