

EmComm Report – Maricopa County Emergency Communications Group

by Krissy KI7GJJ

I'm pretty sure the heat is almost over ... and as temperatures begin to cool there are more opportunities to use your ham radio and support public events while practicing Emergency Communication protocol. So, this month's report is a reminder to register for MCECG (Maricopa County Emergency Communications Group) and then sign up to support an event or two this year! Maricopa County Emergency Communications Group is an informal collection of hams who emphasize scheduled public service events as a means to practice tactical radio proficiency.

If you are not already signed up for MCECG:

- go to the website: <https://www.mcecg.net/>
- click "Log in" on the left-hand side of the page.
- click "New User."
- enter your callsign and email address.
- click "Continue."
- enter the password you are going to use to login to the website.
- click "Continue."
- enter any additional information (I couldn't get any further without creating a dummy account)

Additional information you'll be asked to provide include your name, address, phone number, which ICS courses you've completed, and what equipment you have (vehicle, radios, etc.). Registering is easy.

Once you are registered, you can log in to the website, click "Select Events" on the left-hand side of the webpage. The next page will list events that you can sign up for and other upcoming events. You can click on "Detail" for an event to get more information for the event. Within a week or two of the event, attachments will be available providing maps, communication & assignment plans, and other useful information. Click "Attachments" in the upper right corner of the event details to get the attachments. The communications plan or assignment plan will have your assignment if you have signed up for the event. You will get follow-up emails with more instructions.

Some events are complex such as the Mogollon Monster and others are simple, short events such as the Phoenix Half Marathon. Give it a try! It's a great way to meet other Hams, play with radios, give back to the community, and sharpen your EmComm skills!

-Editor's Note: I am a member of MCECG and through them have participated in 2 Runner's Den Pancake Runs as Timer Station Support. See the March Short Skip for more details.