

The Printed Circuit

**The Monthly Publication of the
Tallahassee Amateur Radio Society
October, 2018**



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SPECIAL HURRICANE MICHAEL EDITION

We are sending you a special edition of The Printed Circuit in light of the imminent arrival of Hurricane Michael. As I write this it is off the coast of Cuba, heading north. It is scheduled to make landfall in the Appalachicola area about noon on Wednesday with Tropical force winds arriving about 8 p.m. Tuesday evening. Tallahassee and the Big Bend, may not be directly hit, but it will, in any event, surely get some damaging winds and probably a lot of rain. As of this writing, Michael is projected to be a Category 3 storm when it comes ashore. Below is some guidance for ham radio operators in Leon County, the Capital District, and the Big Bend of Florida.

Rules to live by

1. Listen to and obey orders to evacuate
2. Priority of care/interests
 - a. self
 - b. wife and children
 - c. pets
 - d. Personal property
 - e. neighbors
 - f. ham radio



CAPITAL DISTRICT
AMATEUR RADIO EMERGENCY SERVICES
COMMUNICATIONS PLAN
(Hurricane)

I. Scope. This plan covers what the Amateur Radio Emergency Services (ARES) will do if a hurricane threatens all or part of the Capital District, or another area for which amateur radio assistance may be requested from the Capital District.

II.. Situation.

A. Assumptions

1. A category 1-3 hurricane will make landfall within three days in the Big Bend area from the Suwannee River to the Apalachicola River.
2. Accompanying rains, wind, and storm surges will be present
3. At some point within the three days before landfall, all of Franklin county and parts of Wakulla and Taylor Counties may be evacuated.
4. There is the possibility of tornadoes throughout the Capital District.
5. The Capital District Chapter of the American Red Cross will open several risk and/or host shelters.
6. County and state level Emergency Operation Centers will open, as will the Tallahassee EOC.
7. The Capital District Area will be without landline or cell phone coverage for 72 hours
8. There will be no commercial electricity for 72 hours.
9. There will be a sundown curfew
10. Roads will be largely impassable for 12-72 hours due to fallen trees and power lines, or flooding.
11. The 147.03 MHz repeater will be operational.

B. Guiding principles

1. County Emergency coordinators are in the best position to assess the needs of their respective counties and will be responsible for making assignments within their counties.
2. The District Emergency Coordinator will coordinate and facilitate activities at the district level and will leave to the county Emergency Coordinators the task of meeting the needs in their counties.
3. The DEC will assist county EC s if they do not have the resources necessary to fulfill their tasks.

III. Mission

The Amateur Radio Operators of the Capital District Amateur Radio Emergency Service will provide communications support for 1. The American Red Cross, 2.the Tallahassee Office of the National Weather Service, and the city, 3. county, and State Emergency Operations centers beginning one day before landfall and lasting until one week after the storm has come ashore.

IV. Execution-how will we do this

A. Capital District Nets

1. Pre landfall. Starting 48-72 hours before landfall, the DEC will call a special Capital District ARES on 147.03 MHz at 8 p.m. eastern time. The purpose of the net will be

a. To give Emergency Coordinators information for them to use in planning what actions they might have to take.

b. To alert the amateur community at large about what the situation is, what they should be doing, and what they may be asked to do and when

c. To solicit(as necessary) persons willing accept an ARES assignment.

d. This net may meet more often as the hurricane approaches landfall.

e. At the daily nets the following will be or will have been accomplished

1) 72 hours before landfall

a) Review District Plan

b) Review message handling procedures

c) Initial call for volunteers

d) Initial determination of needs of served

agencies

2) 48 hours before landfall

a) Repeater Restoration Team alerted and plans

b) Jump kits/72 hour kits completed

c) Further call for volunteers.

d) Assignments for risk shelters, EOCs identified and made

e) Contact made with adjacent ARES Districts, and communication schedules established

f) Capital District representative checks into NFL AREC net

reviewed

3) 24 hours before landfall

a) National Weather Service Spotters alerted and deployed if necessary

b) decision made when next Capital District ARES net will be held.

- c) Review and practice Simplex procedures
- d) Assignments made
- 2. After landfall. Once the storm has made landfall,
 - a. A district wide net will be re-established on 147.03
 - b. County Emergency Coordinators should check into the net on 147.03 at the earliest possible time.
 - 1) If that repeater is down, they should try the following

repeaters

- a) 146.91 (primary alternate), 147.195, 146.655
145.17, 146.865, 442.850
- b) If no repeaters are operational, they should monitor 146.655 MHz and use it as a simplex frequency.
- 2) EC s should let the DEC know, as much as possible:
 - a) Their status
 - b) The Status of ARES members in their counties
 - c) The availability of ARES members to accept assignments.
 - d) Which frequencies they are using for their nets.

B. Net operations

- 1. Assist. SM will designate an NCS to run the District nets and will designate which repeaters will be used for operational and administrative nets.
- 2. All nets will be directed nets.
- 3. Message traffic will use the ARRL message format.

C. The Assist include power supplies.

B. Amateurs will need to provide food and water for the period they are deployed

C. The hosting agency will be able to provide simple first aid if needed. If more serious attention is required, contact the NCS for assistance.

D. Amateurs will provide their own transportation to their assignment.

E. The Assist. SM will provide the appropriate TRACKER number if necessary.

VI. Who is in charge

A. The Assistan Section Manager for North Florida will be in charge of the District ARES's response. He will be located at his home and will monitor the Administrative and Operational frequencies.

B. If he is unavailable, the EC for Leon County will act in his place. He will be located at his home and can be reached at the District Administrative frequency.

C. Communications-Primary and alternate HF/VHF frequencies

- 1. HF. The primary district level HF frequency will be 3.950 MHz. The Alternate frequency will be 7.254 MHz.

2. VHF/UHF. The primary district level frequency will be 147.03 MHz. The alternate repeater frequencies will be 146.91 (primary alternate), 147.195, 146.865, 147.285 442.100, 442.850 MHz.
3. If no repeater is working, simplex will be used on 146.655 MHz.

This plan becomes operational upon notification by the Assist. SM or when a storm is within 72 hours of landfall.

Preparation

Ham radio "Go Kits"- Below is a fairly comprehensible Jump Kit list of items to take.

PERSONAL ITEMS (The list here comes from the Boy Scout Handbook and the Boy Scout Field book)

Pack or bag to carry your items
 Poncho or rain coat
 Ground cloth
 Cot or sleeping pad
 Blanket, sheet
 pillow
 Tent or mosquito net
 Knife fork spoon
 Plate
 Cup
 Stove-propane or gas
 Soap
 Dishrag
 towel
 Pots, frying pan
 Rope or parachute cord
 Pocket knife
 Extra change of clothes to include socks
 Canteen
 First aid kit
 Flashlight with extra batteries
 Shoes
 Flip flops
 Wide brimmed hat
 Extra glasses

Sun glasses
 Strike anywhere matches in waterproof container
 Candles
 Can opener- military P-38 type
 Shovel
 Water purification tablets
 Five gallon bucket with several plastic bags-port-a-pottie
 Mirror
 Shaving gear
 Bandanna
 Toilet paper
 Vaseline jelly
 Face masks
 Rubber gloves

TOOLS
 Hammer
 Pliers
 Socket set-English and metric
 Screw drivers-Phillips and flat head and jewelers
 Pliers
 Needle nose pliers
 Allen wrenches
 Crow bar
 Vice grips
 Wire cutters
 Wire nuts

Complete set of wrenches-English and metric

Digital volt ohm meter
Electrical tape
Duct tape
Soldering iron
Solder
Propane soldering torch
Knife
ax
Assortment of nails, screws, nuts, etc.
Wire connectors, lugs

FOOD

1 gallon water per day per person
crackers
cheese
peanut butter
tang
Oatmeal-instant
Fruit
Canned foods such as
 Ravioli
 Beef stew
 Tuna fish
Seasonings-salt, pepper

PAPER AND STUFF

Paper
Gallon sized zip lock bags
Pens, several
Clip board
Amateur license
ICS course certificates
ARRL message forms
Duty log sheets
Operator's manual for radios and other equipment
License
Various ID cards

POWER

80-110 Amp hour deep cycle battery
Generator
25 amp switching power supply

2 five gallon containers for gas
funnel
fire extinguisher
grounding rod with grounding strap
jumper cables

50 foot extension cords
power strip

power inverter (DC to AC -300 watt capacity)
extra AA and AAA batteries

DC Junction box that can connect to battery
cigarette lighter power cord
Fuses of appropriate ratings for radios and other equipment-Various types

RADIOS

2 m/440 mobile transceiver (35-50 watts) with microphone and power cords
mag mount 2m/440 antenna

2 meter/440 HT
Manuals for radios

HF rig

microphone
power cords
 to car battery
 to AC power supply

HF antenna (dipole)

Center connector
Ropes

Coax

adapters

Antenna tuner

2m/440 antenna
 Jpole
 Beam
 Coax
Supporting pole/tower

Headphones

COMPUTER

Laptop computer loaded with
 APRS
 PSK 31
 Digipan
 Echolink
 A packet terminal program
 Winlink, Paclink, Airmail
 Signallink Interface

Vhf cable
HF cable
USB to serial cable
Toshiba portable hard drive
TNC with associated cables and
power cord
Speaker and microphone that can
connect to computer's soundcard
Interface between computer and radio
for PSK 31
Cat 5 cable
Linksys card

Frequencies and repeaters

Capital District

147.03 MHz Repeater-Primary
146.91 MHz -alternate Repeater
147.03 simplex if the repeater is down
442.100 or 443.500 MHz SAR net
146.835 MHz D-Star
145.01 MHz Winlink
144.39 APRS

North Florida ARES

3.950 MHz Primary
7.242 MHz -Alternate

County ARES will use local repeaters per their County Plans. Leon County will share the 147.03 or 146.91 repeaters if necessary with the Capital District

Hurricane Watch Net-14.325 MHz

Google Maps- Go to www.floridaares.org to get the map of the Big Bend and the Post Hurricane Report Form. If needed, we will exercise this new capability.

Volunteers- There is no word of any need for volunteers for served agencies such as the Red Cross, but that may change. We need stations willing to serve as Net Control Stations for 4 hour shifts when the Capital District ARES net is activated, probably Tuesday afternoon. Notify Dave, WA4WES, daveddavis1@embarqmail.com, if you are willing to help.

Generators should be working, and gas for 3-5 days bought and stored

Important web sites

www.floridaares.org
www.nhc.noaa.gov (National Hurricane Center)
www.wunderground.com (Good weather web site)

Nets.

At this point, we are uncertain about what nets will be needed and called. Certainly we will have the regular Sunday ARES net, but beyond that it is unclear. What I will do is call a special nightly ARES net starting on Saturday, May 26 at 8 p.m. on the 147.03 MHz repeater to give updates on what is going on. It will continue until the Alberto crisis is over.

Deploying. At this point there has been no call for hams to deploy to anywhere in the state or Big Bend. Unless specifically asked, do not self deploy. You create more problems than you solve when you do. The Red Cross, county EOCs, and hospitals may request amateur radio assistance. If your situation permits you may be able to serve there.

Mobile capability. If you have mobile VHF/UHF capability check to make sure it still works.

SAR net. The Statewide Amateur Radio net (SAR net) has Tallahassee nodes of 442.100 MHz and 443.500 MHz, +5MHz offset, and 94.8 PL tone. Use regular net etiquette. Listen mostly. Remember that when you talk on the SAR net, your signal is going to stations throughout the state. Delay for a second or two before transmitting to give the other nodes an opportunity to drop. I anticipate at some time, the Section Manager will take control of the net and dedicate it solely for Irma use. Please respect that decision.

American Red Cross. We have had no word from the ARC about their need for radio communications. At this point National Headquarters wants to alert hams to be prepared.

Final Advice-Charge your Bao Feng!!!

SPECIAL ARES NETS

Wakulla County, Jefferson County, Madison County, and the Capital District will hold special ARES nets on Monday(Oct. 8) and Tuesday (Oct. 9) at the following times and frequencies

Wakulla: 145.450 MHz. 1930 Hours

Jefferson County 145.43 MHz 2000 Hours

Madison County 145.190 MHz 1900 Hours

Capital District 147.03MHz 2015 hours

The local SAR net frequency is 442.100 MHz



73

Dave
WA4WES
TARS Newsletter Editor

