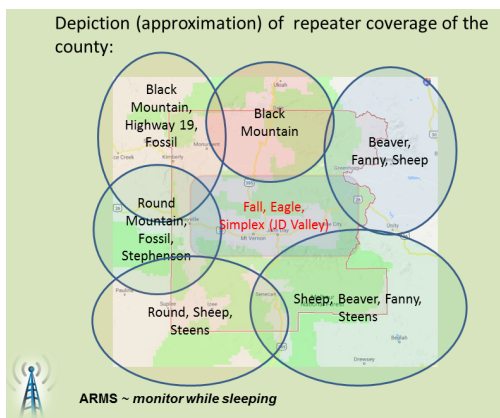




ARMS a Basic Explanation

Here in Grant County there is Amateur Radio Coverage (through repeaters) that covers most of the county. This is accomplished by using repeaters that are located inside Grant County and some that are outside the county, but have in-county coverage.



This means that for “Field Discovery” (reporting a fire or a motor vehicle accident) where there is no cell service, we have the ability to save time and potentially to save lives because of this coverage. In order to do this, you need a person who is transmitting and a person who is listening.

The problem is that we do not have enough manpower to monitor all the frequencies, 24 hours a day. Most of the amateur radio operators in Grant County want to sleep at night without a radio making noise. We needed a way to “listen” without disturbing sleep except when there is an emergency. So we created the ARMS system.

ARMS (automatic repeater monitoring system) does this by scanning preprogrammed frequencies and listening for a DTMF tone that is transmitted through the keypad that exists on most mobile and handheld radios. When the ARMS system detects this tone, it starts an emergency callout procedure that will wake up someone who has been trained to use ARMS and they will, in turn, call 911.

The system needs a moderately high mountain that is at least 500’ from other radio sites.

