# Initial Action Checklist

The net control station and/or officials on the designated emergency net will provide additional instructions, including information on frequencies used or other resource and tactical nets.

- ☐ Check that family and property are safe and secure.
- ☐ Be prepared to operate. Check all equipment and connections.
- ☐ Be prepared to deploy to an assignment/location with Ready-Kit (*see* **Preparedness**).
- ☐ Monitor assigned frequency and follow check-in instructions.
- ☐ Initiate personal event log of dates and times of various events performed while activated.
- ☐ Enter assigned frequency(s) on log sheet. Log all traffic sent or received, and other significant events. The ARES-RACES Asset List included *in* **Appendix** can serve as a log.
- ☐ Deploy to assignment/location.
- ☐ Obtain tactical call sign for location/assignment (if appropriate).
- ☐ Use a formal ARRL Message Form (*included in* **Appendix**) when a precise record is required.
- ☐ If appropriate, use tactical call sign, while observing FCC's ten-minute ID rule.
- ☐ Monitor your assigned frequency at all times. Request permission from NCS before changing frequency. Notify (and/or request permission from) NCS if you have to leave frequency or location.

# Amateur Radio Emergency Operations

All emergencies will initially be treated as ARES events until such time as Monroe County Emergency Management, Indiana EMA, or INDHS declares the incident to be a RACES event. At that point, only RACES-enrolled members will be on the frequencies.

Monroe County ARES-RACES members and other amateur radio service volunteers, upon becoming aware that an emergency exists, shall monitor the following frequencies:

1. 146.640 MHz (-) (PL 136.5 ) repeater to receive instructions or assignments. This is the *primary net frequency* and is located on the Indiana University Campus on Eigenmann Hall.
2. 146.940 MHz (-) (PL 136.5) repeater will be used if the above repeater becomes overloaded or inoperative, or as a subnet frequency. It is located in/on the IU Memorial Union Building.

3. 146.580 MHz Simplex will be used if all repeaters are overloaded or inoperative, or may be used as a subnet frequency. EC will determine availability of other Simplex frequencies for resource or tactical subnets during an event

4. 443.775 MHz (+5 MHz) (PL 136.5 unless in net mode) repeater, if linked, may be used to provide a subnet frequency for liaison between amateur stations monitoring net activity in Greene, Brown, Marion, and Putnam counties. Amateur stations monitoring other sources of information may communicate with ARES liaison on this frequency.

5. 146.580 MHz Simplex will be used if all repeaters are overloaded or inoperative, or may be used as a subnet frequency. EC will determine availability of other Simplex frequencies for resource or tactical subnets during an event.

6. Monroe County ARES-RACES may utilize other modes on the following, or other, frequencies:

   - 144.340 MHz Fast Scan Television (FSTV)
   - 144.360 MHz Slow Scan Television (SSTV)
   - 144.390 MHz Packet Automatic Position Reporting System
   - 145.010 MHz Packet Networking/Keyboard-to-Keyboard
   - 145.050 MHz K9IU Packet BBS Primary User Port
   - 145.570 MHz K9IU Packet BBS Local User Port

# Amateur Radio Traffic

**Tactical traffic** is the first response communication in an emergency situation. It may be instructions or inquiries: "Send ambulance," "Where are water supplies?" Though tactical traffic is generally unformatted and seldom written, on responses, all traffic should be logged to protect both the radio amateur and the cooperating agency.

**Formal traffic** is generally long-term communications, often cast in ARRL message format and handled on NTS nets.

**Packet** – mode is handy for detailed or lengthy messages. The operator may prepare the message ahead of time and edit off-line as text files.

**Image communications** are live pictures of an area for damage assessment or Welfare traffic. ATV using FSTV requires more expensive equipment than Slow Scan SSTV.

**Emergency | Priority | Break**

***Break*** -- The normal, polite request for an opportunity to interrupt an *ongoing contact* is the lowest priority of interruption. *Break* is also often recognized during an *Open Net* and *may* be granted during an *Informal Directed Net.* The NCS can break back with a higher priority should events warrant a change in net status.

NCS or an operator on any contact will always STOP everything and answer the following interruption priority calls immediately.

***Priority*** -- The second highest level of interruption, *Priority*, means the traffic concerns an *immediate safety issue regarding* human *life or injury, or impending property damage*.

***Emergency*** -- The highest level of priority, *Emergency,* is reserved for **only** *danger-of-death or*

# Activation of the Communication Plan

- Monroe County ARES may activate a *Declared Formal Emergency Net* at the direction of Monroe County Emergency Management Agency. and *Formal Emergency* nets at the request of the Red Cross Director of Disaster Services and/or authorities of other agencies. ARES also operates *Formal Declared* weather nets based upon observed or potential local events. RACES may activate a *Declared Formal Emergency Net* only at the direction of Monroe County Emergency Management Agency (or state or federal DHS). Only RACES members should respond.

- *Cave Search-Rescue emergencies are activated by the Cave Rescue Team of the Indiana Karst Conservancy from calls to 812-337-7050 or to the Indiana State Police at 812-332-4411. All volunteers, including amateur radio operators, are trained by NCRC. Deployment to an operation is limited to members of the team. Other ARS operators will not generally deploy to a cave rescue operation nor participate in a cave rescue net unless specifically requested to provide communications support by the Cave Rescue Team.*

- ARES will activate a *Formal Declared* Severe Weather or *Skywarn* Net under the direction of the NWS in Indianapolis. The trigger is an NWS severe weather *Warning* for Monroe and/or surrounding counties in the path of the event. *Skywarn* may be requested by NWS prior to severe weather in order to provide communications relays. NWS notifies Monroe County ARES EC, or an assistant, when severe weather threatens any of the 39 reportable counties.

- A local emergency net can also be triggered by EMA when a severe storm/tornado Warning is issued by NWS or if tornado sirens are activated to indicate other emergency events.

## Siren locations:

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| EAGLES LANDING | AMERICAN LEGION | HOOSIER ENERGY |
| BEAN BLOSSOM FD | THE POINTE | EAST MONROE WATER CORP |
| INDIANA STATE HIGHWAY GARAGE | BATCHELOR MIDDLE SCHOOL | UPA- FAMILY WORSHIP CTR |
| INDIAN CREEK TWP FIRE | CENTURY VILLAGE | STINESVILLE LIONS CLUB |
| HARRODSBURG COMMUNITY PARK | Grocery Supply (was PYA) | DNR-FAIRFAX BEACH |
| SABIN CORPORATION | MONROE COUNTY HIGHWAY | DNR-PAYNETOWN REC AREA |
| UNIONVILLE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL | STANFORD BAPTIST CHURCH | MC Solid Waste - Anderson |
| NEW UNIONVILLE BAPTIST CHURCH | BOY SCOUT CAMP | MC Solid Waste - Oard |
| RIDDLE POINT PARK | ELLETTSVILLE TENNIS COURTS | WOODHAVEN CHURCH |
| SHERWOOD OAKS CHRISTIAN CHURCH | SUMMIT ELEMENTARY | SMITHVILLE TELEPHONE |
| SMITHVILLE BALL DIAMOND | ST. JOHNS | MT OLIVE CHURCH |
| CITY SERVICE CENTER | DELLSVILLE | |

Siren locations are listed as it may be necessary to sound emergency sirens during an event other than weather. Operators should be familiar with the siren(s) in their home and/or work vicinity. Understand that sirens are not intended to be audible inside buildings, but rather are meant to be warnings for those outside and out of the reach of other audio alerts, such as radio, TV, and cable video services. The revised Volunteer Radio Manual will include postal addresses where applicable.

- In the event of an emergency event, **Monroe County EMA** will contact the **ARES EMERGENCY COORDINATOR** and/or **RACES RADIO OFFICER**, an assistant, or a member of the Emergency Committee. ARES-RACES volunteers should monitor the three county frequencies (146.64, 146.94, and 146.58 /s/ -- see above and below), and may be notified by a telephone tree. ARES-RACES volunteers will begin a declared net on the primary frequency, WB8TLH (146.640/146.040 – see above), to secure additional ARES support and other amateur radio volunteers. During a RACES event, only RACES members should respond.

- The **Red Cross** activates upon receiving a call from Chapter Management. A Telephone Tree Plan is used to activate the membership at large. ARES will use the above repeater and simplex frequencies and may initiate a telephone tree. A Red Cross disaster radio subnet NCS or liaison stations may be assigned by ARES NCS to provide emergency radio communications between the disaster scene, normally at or near the triage location, and the Red Cross Chapter House. Red Cross is involved with sheltering, first-aid, patient tracking, other patient related health and safety activities, and damage assessment.

- **The SEMA/DHS Ham Team** in Indianapolis is activated by INDHS when communications assistance is requested by one of the 92 Indiana County Emergency Management Directors.

# Principles of Disaster Communication

1. Monitor primary or assigned frequency. Stay on assigned frequency.

2. Keep the interference level down. All stations should remain silent until called or unless there is necessary traffic to pass.

3. Avoid spreading rumors. Report first-hand knowledge. Transmissions, relaying official information should be authenticated, authorized and repeated word for word. Relay transmissions on VHF/UHF simplex or HF phone or CW should be word for word or use an agency-approved message format. A written log is especially helpful in forming the content of the material to be relayed.

4. Authenticate all messages. Messages of an official nature should be written and signed (ARRL Message Form). Amateur operators should avoid initiating disaster or emergency traffic. ARS does the communicating; the agency officials supply the content of the communications.

5. Strive for efficiency. Instead of trying to operate a station full time at the expense of health and efficiency, volunteer for a shift at one of the better-located, better-equipped stations, manned by relief shifts of the best-qualified operators. This reduces interference and assures well-operated stations.

6. Use the selected mode and band. The merits of a particular band or mode in a communications emergency have been evaluated impartially by the authorities and the EC with a view to the appropriate use of bands, modes, equipment and purposes.

7. Be courteous of and cooperative with other communications groups responsible for emergency communications support. The primary objective of emergency communications is to save lives and property.

8. Use all communications channels intelligently. Under FCC rules and regulations, in the absence of ARS frequencies, other official channels may be used to transmit an *Emergency* message, but *not* Priority, Routine or Welfare traffic.

9. Operators will not transmit the name of an injured, trapped or deceased subject, but may request that the NCS send the appropriate authorities and assistance to the location using *Emergency* or *Priority* traffic protocols. Operators will not transmit the name of a minor lost or separated from responsible adults, but will be prepared to respond to NCS with description and or identifying information established ahead of time. Should this not suffice, have authorities authorize transmission of the name.

10. Don't broadcast. ARS transmissions are not intended to keep the public informed. Emergency Communications are intended to support authorities handling an event.

# Repeater Operation

**Power** –Do not assume that PL tones will normally be off during emergency events. Have the tone for each local repeater programmed into your radio, and have other repeater tones available. Know how to add/change tones on a frequency. However, you should still use minimum power to avoid keying near-by, same-frequency repeaters and causing unnecessary interference. Low power also conserves batteries.

**Pause** -- To allow NCS, liaisons, or operators with *Emergency* or *Priority* traffic, immediate access, operators with *Routine*/*Welfare* traffic should pause after a station finishes a transmission -- count to 2 or 3 before transmitting.

**Listen** -- Listen much, transmit little.

**Think** -- Think before transmitting. Stick to facts, control emotions. Write out what is to be transmitted before sending the message. Be succinct -- as short and concise as possible.

**Articulate** -- Don't slur. Speak close to the mic, but talk across it, not into it. Keep voice down. Talk slowly, calmly.

# Amateur Radio Nets

A **Declared Net** begins with a statement that a net is being started for a particular purpose. There is an identified Net Control Station [**NCS**], perhaps identified backup and/or logging stations, and in some instances, liaison(s) between NCS, served agencies and other ARS stations.

*Open Net* -- A net is declared. Normal use of repeater or frequency continues. Any licensed amateur radio operator can start a net to get assistance with a situation. Usually, such nets involve personal circumstances such as automobile assistance, making travel arrangements, or other non-commercial activity. Sometimes such nets may be a precursor to a *Directed Net* as operators begin to organize and discuss possible events, such as weather emergencies.

*Directed Net* -- NCS declares the net and actively controls the frequency. Normal usage of the frequency or repeater is stopped. Specific topic, conditions, and/or instructions for check-in are given.

*Open Net* -- Public service nets and practice nets.

*Formal Directed Net* -- Activation of specific nets for a specific purpose or emergency.

*Emergency* nets are reserved for *danger-of-death or serious-injury* situations -- an accident or other crisis where people and/or property are in distress. Emergencies are nearly always recognized and declared by agencies or authorities outside of the Amateur Radio Service, such as the NWS, the local Emergency Manager [**EM**], and/or the local Red Cross. Amateur radio operators and ARS NCS do not have independent authority to declare an emergency.

*Sub-nets* – NCS may establish independent sub-nets with or without their own frequencies and NCSs reporting to the main net.

NCS will regularly announce the authority for, and status (*Open, Formal*) of, during the course of the nets.

# Principles of Net Operation

1. Net Control will often operate from a location other than that of the Monroe County Emergency Operations Center (EOC) in Monroe County. An EOC liaison may be located at the EOC to pass information to/from the Emergency Management and the Net. Emergency power is available and amateur station equipment is located at the EOC. The EOC amateur station may be shifted to another location, such as the City-County dispatch/communications center, or even to a mobile.

2. Once a net is declared, NCS will begin to build an Asset List [*see* **Appendix**] to match the requirements of the event. ARES-RACES members and other amateur radio volunteers should follow the procedures outlined in instructions from NCS which will depend upon the circumstances of the emergency and may vary throughout the course of the event. For example, Monroe County ARES-RACES NCS may request check-ins by calling for those stations who have been notified by telephone or for RACES members, from only those stations with specific traffic to pass, from stations which are or can be mobile or portable, or from stations with other equipment, modes or operating capabilities, from operators in specific or certain locations in the area, or from all ARS volunteers who are standing by.

3. The size of an emergency net will guide and be guided by the National Incident Management System [NIMS/ICS] plan, but it could change very quickly. In a major event that is likely to grow, NCS may request and keep a large Asset List of standby operators who may never be required to activate or give a report.

4. As each operator checks in, NCS may request:

   - ☐ *Callsign*
   - ☐ *Name*
   - ☐ *Equipment* [type of radio(s), antenna(s), power supply, and transportation]
   - ☐ *Initial Status* (mobile, stationary) and *Location*,
   - ☐ an estimate of the *length of availability*, and possibly
   - ☐ whether the station can serve as a simplex relay station.

5. Should either, Strategic Net or additional sub-, Tactical nets be operated on a VHF simplex the primary or HF frequency, operators will need to use slightly different monitoring and communication tactics.

    - Tune to the assigned frequency and listen.
    - If you hear a station, listen for an invitation and instructions to check in or join the net. Usually those will include some or all of the above – or, in order to establish contact, may be limited to call sign.
    - At a break, make your call sign call: "This is K9DIY," for example, and wait to be acknowledged. NCS will acknowledge with your call. At that point, you may be asked for more information or requested to stand by.
    - If you hear no traffic, try tuning up or down in small increments. The VFOs of the separate radios may not be precisely on frequency – or it may have been necessary to move the net slightly to avoid interference. Usually +/- 5 is ample. If you still hear no traffic, return to the base frequency and make a call: "This is K9DIY. Is the frequency in use?" Wait. If a QSO (contact) that you can not hear is being held, either NCS or the auxiliary assisting stations will need to wait to contact you. Wait.
    - If you were heard, the hearing station will contact NCS with, "Net control, this is W9ABC. Did you copy K9DIY?" NCS will then attempt to contact you. If unsuccessful, reporting station, W9ABC, will be asked to contact you and relay. If that is not successful, another station which could copy you may be asked to serve as relay. That process continues until a relay (or multiple relays) initiates contact between you and NCS. Wait.
    - Once contact is established, exchange information as if you were on a repeater. The relay stations will be writing your messages or traffic to assure accuracy. Be patient. Your traffic may be important, so work to establish contact with NCS or a relay station.

6. NCS may then ask for a "standby" to organize the available personnel resources to meet the logistics of the event. A local net responding to a large-scale incident may require more functions than can be managed by a single NCS. As the situation develops, NCS may establish a subnet structure to handle some of the traffic. This is a principle of the NIMS/ICS.

7. Available operators may then be assigned to function

    - as Backup NCS
    - as Logging or Liaison stations (including relay functions on simplex or HF)
    - as Resource NCS to direct specific tasks created by the complexity of the event, or
    - as an operator or spotter.

    Resource NCS, Logging and Liaison stations, and other stations may also be assigned *locations*. Operators/spotters may be assigned duties on a Resource or other subnet and frequency for which they will be given instructions.

8. Mobile and portable units may be dispatched, within the limits of personnel and equipment, as needed to schools, shelters, hospitals, fire stations, or other locations necessary to support emergency communications. ARS operators may be assigned to vehicles operated by EMA, Red Cross, or other cooperating agencies or groups. Mobile and portable units may be contacted by NCS while in

9. Information concerning the nature of an emergency event and the extent of ARES involvement will be transmitted to all volunteers as it becomes available and updated when possible. However, ARES-RACES will avoid transmitting identifying addresses of the most severe damage, license or other identification numbers of vehicles, possible reported causes, names of an injured, trapped or deceased subjects, and names of a minors lost or separated from responsible adults – except as outlined and agreed upon by the authorities or agencies in the NIMS/ICS for the event.

10. Federal regulations provide that licensed amateurs shall exert direct control over all transmissions on amateur frequencies. This does allow for “third party traffic” where the amateur operator retains control of the transmission and has advised against the use of foul language or the conduct of commercial business. Relays often become incorrectly “translated” by the relay operator, especially if there is a high percentage of special agency terminology, technical term

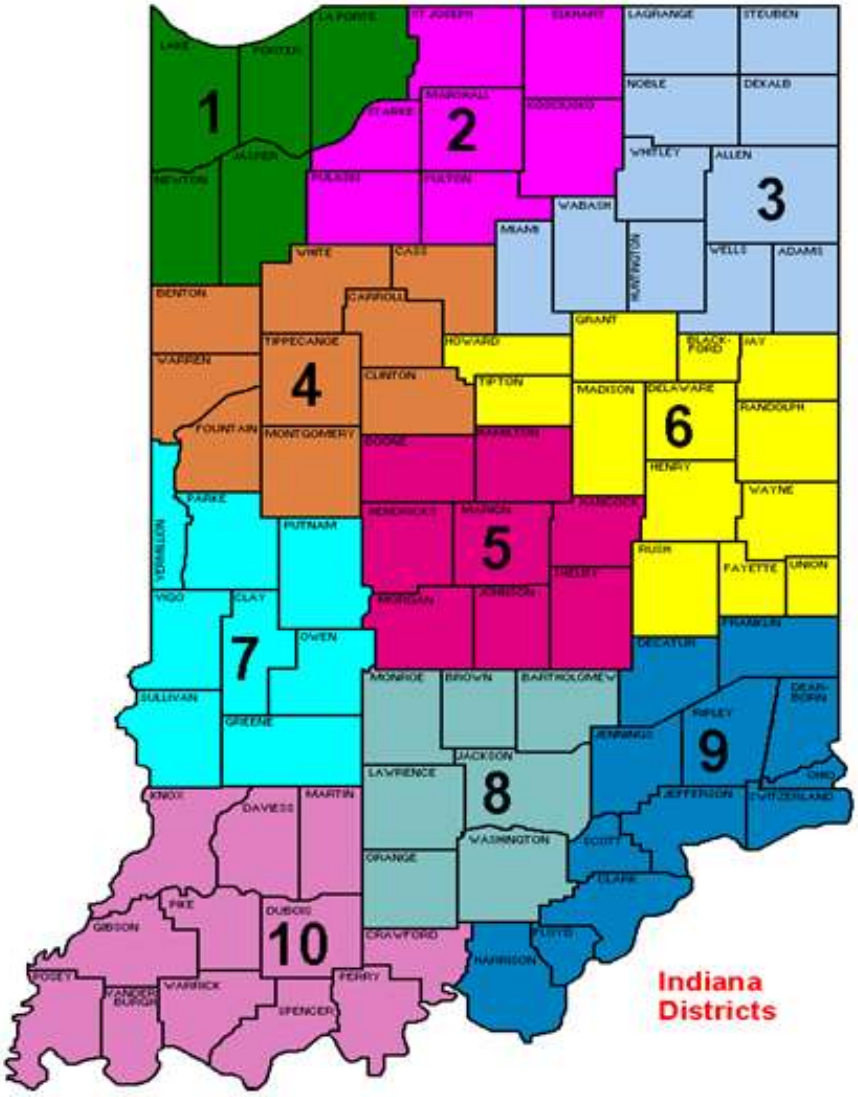
# ARES-RACES Indiana Frequencies

While this listing cannot possibly represent all the frequencies that could be used or monitored in a given scenario, it does provide a core set of frequencies. Please note that only the specific frequencies in relationship to ARES operations are presented here. Other agency frequency lists may be attached at a later date.

| Frequency # | | Frequency MHz | Notes | PL Tone |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | Primary | HF 3.910 | +/- 0.020 LSB | NA |
| 2 | Fail Over | HF 7.280 | LSB | NA |
| 3 | INARES | VHF 146.490 | Simplex | NA |
| 4 | INARES | UHF 446.100 | Simplex | NA |
| 5 | IN RACES | HF 3.920 | LSB | NA |
| 6 | IN RACES | HF 7.298 | LSB | NA |
| 7 | INARES WINLINK | VHF 145.610 | | NA |

1. In event of Frequency 1 failure, Frequency 2 should be monitored until further instructions as received.
2. An official liaison station will be appointed by the NCS to report on the IN RACES frequency above on either 75 or 40 Meters.
3. Simplex Frequencies should be monitored along with local Frequencies in times of emergencies.
4. As required, net operations will be conducted on the frequency best suited for operations, or as degrading conditions require.
5. If it becomes required to move completely off the designated frequencies above then a station will be assigned monitoring duties to redirect late or new stations connecting to the net.
6. The Indiana ARES net frequency should always be monitored by an EC, DEC or his appointee in times of emergencies.
7. Net operations will begin on the primary frequency.
8. Individuals may monitor other frequencies as needed, during an event this information may only be treated as supplemental:
   8.1. Public Service and emergency frequencies.
   8.2. Served Agencies Frequencies as available
9. NOAA Weather Radio should be monitored at all times for alerts by at least one or more stations on the net.
10. Indiana ARES members may participate in the nets of adjoining jurisdictions at the invitation of the NCS of that Net. These stations may only officially declare themselves as a liaison to the Indiana ARES when directed by the Indiana SEC or designee. In times of emergency these stations should contact the SEC or SM if mutual aid is requested.
11. All Indiana ARES members are encouraged to listen-in or participate for training purposes when possible.

# District 8 and Contiguous Radio Contacts




Monroe County is located in Indiana Department of Homeland Security District 8. Our partner counties are Brown (Nashville), Bartholomew (Columbus), Jackson (Brownstown, Seymour) Lawrence (Bedford, Mitchell), Orange (Paoli), and Washington (Salem). Contingent counties in other districts include [D7] Greene (Bloomfield) and Owen (Spencer) and [D5] Morgan (Martinsville). Contact information is below.

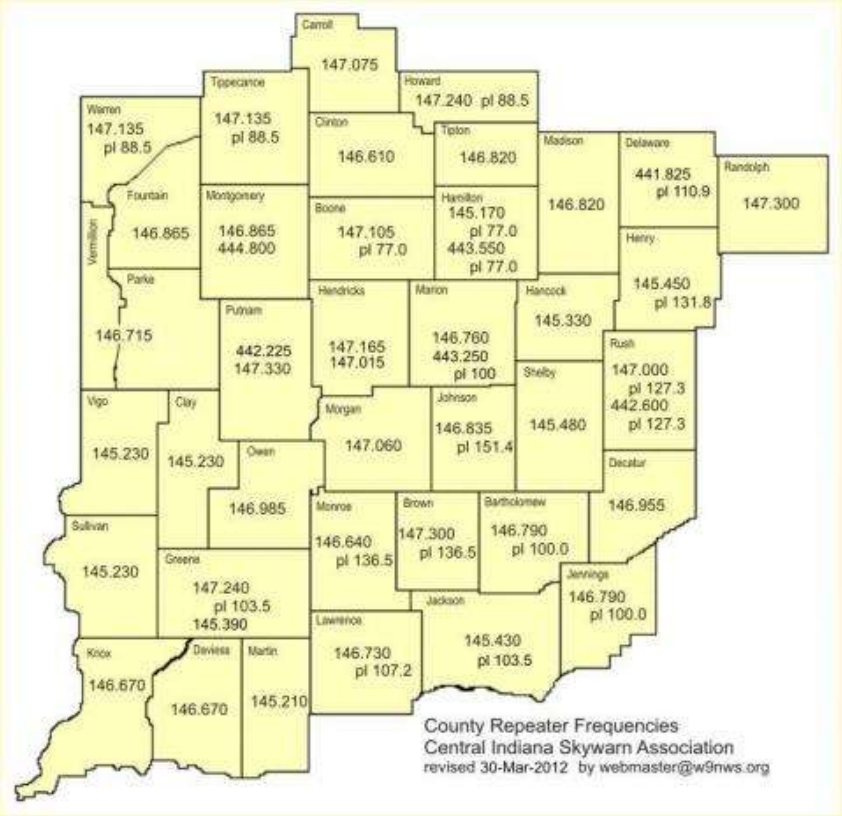
In addition to ARS on-air connections with these county operations, amateur radio operators may be assigned as liaison stations to other groups or agencies. Such liaisons may be assigned to physically locate with those groups. Those groups or agencies may have radio service on bands other than those of the Amateur Radio Service. Under FCC rules and regulations, liaison operators will use *only* assigned amateur frequencies to relay traffic and information.

- **Bartholomew County:** District 8
  - ARES Emergency Coordinator: Rusty Richards, WB9FIU
  - Repeaters: 146.79$^{-}$ (PL100.0); 443.075$^{+}$ (136.5)
- **Brown County**: District 8
  - ARES Emergency Coordinator: Ric Woehlecke, K9VM
  - Repeaters: 147.3$^{+}$ (PL 136.5); 443.275$^{+}$ (PL 136.5); 53.09$^{-}$ ; 53.71$^{+}$ (PL 136.5)
- **Greene County:** District 7
  - ARES Emergency Coordinator: Walker Townsend, KC9PNK
  - RACES Radio Officer: David Love W9XTZ
  - Repeaters: 147.24$^{+}$ (PL103.5); 145.39$^{+}$ (PL 118.8);
  - Simplex: 146.43 (Primary) 146.415 (Secondary
- **Jackson County**: District 8
  - ARES Emergency Coordinator: Richard Rigsby, KC9MVK
  - Repeaters: 145.43$^{+}$ (PL103.5); 224.86$^{-}$ (PL218.1); 441.55$^{+}$ (PL203.5)
- **Lawrence County:** District 8
  - ARES Emergency Coordinator: Hal Mandery, W8AIR
  - Rick Nicholson, N9UMJ
  - Repeaters: 145.31$^{-}$; 145.490$^{+}$ (PL136.5); 146.730$^{+}$ (PL107.2); 147.345$^{+}$ (PL107.2); 444.05$^{+}$ (PL107.2)
- **Monroe County:** District 8
  - ARES Emergency Coordinator: Cory Shields, KB9JHU
  - RACES Radio Officer: Carl Zager, KB9RVB)
  - Repeaters: 146.64$^{+}$ (PL 136.5); 146.94$^{+}$ (PL 136.5); 443.775$^{+}$ (PL136.5); Simplex: 146.58
- **Morgan County:**
  - ARES Emergency Coordinator: Brian Elliott, N9JPX
  - Repeaters: 147.255$^{+}$ (PL88.5); 224.66; 224.84; 444.250$^{+}$ (PL100)
- **Orange County:** District 8
  - ARES Emergency Coordinator: Larry Jones, WB9FHP
  - Repeaters: 147.045$^{+;}$ 444.025$^{+}$ (PL136.5)
- **Owen County:** District 7
  - ARES Emergency Coordinator: Jim Baughn, K9EOH
  - RACES Radio Officer: Jim Baughn, K9EOH
  - Repeaters: 146.895$^{+}$ (PL136.5); 146.985$^{+}$ (PL136.5); 28.4 USB
- **Washington County**: District 8
  - ARES Emergency Coordinator: Allen Shuff, W9ON
  - Repeaters: 147.315$^{+}$ ; 442.7$^{+}$ (PL107.2)

# Communications with/by Other Agencies

## Liaison Assignments

- **Central Indiana Skywarn / National Weather Service**




- **Central Indiana Skywarn Net linked repeater system:**

*Indianapolis*

- ☐ **146.970MHz (-600kHz) PK77.0, W9ICE**
- ☐ **442.650MHz (+5MHz) PL77.0, W9ICE**

*Terre Haute*

- ☐ **444.350MHz +5MHz W9SKI**

*Lafayette*

- ☐ **443.775MHz +5MHz, pl 88.5 KA9VXS**

*Freetown (Seymour)*

- ☐ **147.435MHz simplex, pl 77.0 W9ICE**

*Vincennes*

- ☐ **443.925MHz +5MHz, pl 107.2 W9EAR**

Liaison can be on any of the above linked frequencies

- **General Emergency Widespread Frequencies:**

  - ☐ Indiana Traffic Net: 3.910 MHz (If widespread emergency exists)
  - ☐ Maritime Mobile Net: 7.260 MHz (If widespread emergency exists)
  - ☐ Maritime Mobile Net: 14.300 MHz (If widespread emergency exists)

ARS operators may be assigned as liaison stations at locations identified by ARES, EMA, the Red Cross, and/or other participating agencies. These may be, but not limited to, the following:

INDHS/SEMA Regional Staging Areas

- ☐ Monroe County Fairgrounds
- ☐ Monroe County Highway Garage
- ☐ Monroe County Airport (with CAP)

- ☐ Monroe County EMA headquarters – 119 W 7th Street
- ☐ Monroe County Red Cross Chapter House – 409 E 7th Street
- ☐ Bloomington, IN., Corps, Salvation Army (SATERN) – 111 N Rogers Street
- ☐ Richland-Bean Blossom (RBB) and/or Monroe County Community School Corporation (MCCSC) buildings being used as shelters or aid stations

Hospitals, Medical Centers and Clinics

- ☐ IU Health-Bloomington Hospital – 601 W 2nd Street
- ☐ Monroe Hospital --
- ☐ BHC Meadows Hospital – 3600 N Prow Road
- ☐ Indiana University (Campus) Health Center
- ☐ Bloomington Veterans Administration Outpatient Clinic – 200 E Winslow
- ☐ Southern Indiana Surgery Center – 2800 Rex Grossman Boulevard
- ☐ 1st Healthcare Group – 100 N Curry Pike
- ☐ IU Health-Rebound East – 888 Auto Mall Road
- ☐ IU Health-Rebound West – 3443 W Third Street
- ☐ The Eye Center of Southern Indiana – 1011 W 2nd Street

- ☐ Indiana Army National Guard – SINCGARS system

Law enforcement headquarters

- ☐ Monroe County / Bloomington Dispatch – 220 E 3rd Street
- ☐ Monroe County Justice Building – 301 N College Ave
- ☐ Bloomington Police – 220 E 3rd Street
- ☐ Indiana University Police – 801 N Jordan Avenue
- ☐ Indiana State Police – District 33 Bloomington, 1500 N. Packinghouse Rd, #200
- ☐ Town Marshall of Ellettsville
- ☐ Bean Blossom Township / Stinesville
- ☐ Indiana State Conservation Office (South Region) -- 4850 S IN 446

Fire stations

- ☐ Bloomington Headquarters and/or Stations
- ☐ Bean Blossom Township
- ☐ Benton Township
- ☐ Bloomington Township (w/ Hazmat units)
- ☐ Ellettsville
- ☐ Indian Creek Township
- ☐ Perry-Clear Creek District
- ☐ Van Buren Township

Other service buildings

- ☐ Bloomington Street Department
- ☐ Bloomington Utilities Department
- ☐ Indiana Department of Transportation Garage
- ☐ Indiana University Physical Plant
- ☐ Ellettsville Utility Service Building

Other Areas

- ☐ Lake Monroe
- ☐ Griffey Reservoir
- ☐ Lake Lemon
- ☐ Bryan Park
- ☐ Karst Farm Park

## Monitoring Assignments

Operators may be assigned to monitor one or more of these NOAA Weather Radio frequencies depending upon the direction of the weather threat:

| Freq MHz | Transmitter | Direction | Watts | Covered Counties |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| ☐ 162.450 | Bloomington | | 1000 | Monroe, Owen, Brown, Lawrence |
| ☐ 162.400 | Putnamville | NW | 1000 | Clay, Owen, Hendricks, Morgan |
| ☐ 162.425 | Edwardsport | SW - S | 1000 | Knox, Greene, Sullivan, Daviess |
| ☐ 162.500 | Georgia | S | 1000 | Lawrence, Orange, Martin |
| ☐ 162.525 | Seymour | E - SE | 1000 | Jennings, Jackson, Bartholomew, Washington, Scott |
| ☐ 162.550 | Indianapolis | N | 1000 | Marion, Morgan, Johnson, Hendricks, Shelby, Bartholomew |

- ☐ ARS operators may need to be assigned to monitor radio frequencies of law enforcement, firefighting, and military groups where no liaison operator has been assigned. This will include SINCGARS when there is co-deployment of local authorities and military personnel and the local battalion is operating in unencoded mode. Frequencies and utilization will be assigned during activation instructions.

- **Public, Commercial and Cable Television and Radio**

In the past, Monroe County ARES-RACES has advocated operators monitoring normal broadcast and/or data resources, such as area television channels, cable news and weather services, and Internet resources. A decade of experience and experimentation with this protocol has yielded mixed and sometimes negative results.

Unless the event disrupts other normal broadcast and/or data resources, local residents, including amateur radio operators, monitor area television channels, cable news and weather services, and Internet resources in an effort to keep apprised of event related activities. Often, including information taken from such sources creates an "information loop" in which amateur radio reports of event circumstances are broadcast or distributed by local or Internet media, unattributed. Operators monitoring those sources repeat the report and send it back through the communications network as if it were a new and different report.

Therefore, effective with this communications plan, information gathered through monitoring of area television channels, cable news and weather services, and Internet resources shall be considered, at best, secondary or tertiary and shall not be reported without additional confirmation that the information has not been reported to the cooperating agency or agencies.

Such report loops are contrary to the mission of amateur radio emergency support services.

# Communicating with the Media

When involved with an emergency situation, all attempts for interviews from the media should be referred to the designated spokesperson of the convening authority. It is good practice to follow this protocol during practice nets and public service events as well, referring questions to the organizers or directors of the event.

ARS operators will not make any comment to a member of the media regarding information about injuries, deaths, addresses of the most severe damage, license numbers of vehicles, rail car numbers, and possible reported causes which might lead them to a "trail-of-responsibility/blame. "*I can't answer that question,"* is always a good response.

Amateur radio operators will not transmit the name of an injured, trapped or deceased subject, but may request that the NCS send the appropriate authorities and assistance to the location using *Emergency* or *Priority* traffic protocols. ARS operators will not transmit the name of a minor lost or separated from responsible adults, but will be prepared to respond to NCS with description and or identifying information established ahead of time. Should this not suffice, have authorities authorize transmission of the name.

In either an emergency or a practice event, operators *may* discuss the role of the communications volunteers and amateur radio in the overall, but not the specific, situation.