



Montgomery Amateur Radio Club Field Day



Field Day is a picnic, a campout, practice for emergencies, an informal contest and, most of all, FUN!

ARRL Field Day is the single most popular on-the-air event held annually in the US and Canada. On **June 23 and 24, 2012**, more than 35,000 American and Canadian radio amateurs will gather with their clubs, groups or simply with friends to operate from remote locations. Members and friends of the **Montgomery Amateur Radio Club** will set up operations at the Davis Airport, a family-owned country air strip at **7200 Hawkins Creamery Road, off Route 108, 3 miles north of Laytonsville, MD.**

Field Day is a time where many aspects of Amateur Radio come together to highlight our many roles. While some will treat it as a contest, our club uses the opportunity to practice our emergency response capabilities. It is an excellent opportunity to demonstrate Amateur Radio to the organizations that Amateur Radio might serve in an emergency, as well as the general public. For our club, ARRL Field Day is one of the highlights of our annual calendar.

Our objective is simply to contact as many other stations as possible and to learn to operate our radio gear in abnormal situations and less than optimal conditions.

We use these same skills when we help with events such as marathons and bike-a-thons; fund-raisers such as walkathons; celebrations such as parades; and exhibits at fairs, malls and museums — these are all large, preplanned, non-emergency activities.

But despite the development of very complex, modern communications systems — or maybe because they ARE so complex — ham radio has been called into action again and again to provide communications in crises when it really matters. Amateur Radio Operators (also called “hams”) are well known for our communications support in real disaster and post-disaster situations.

What is the ARRL?

The American Radio Relay League is the 150,000+ member national association for Amateur Radio in the USA. ARRL is the primary source of information about what is going on in ham radio. It provides books, news, support and information for individuals and clubs, special events, continuing education classes and other benefits for its members.

What is Amateur Radio?

Often called “ham radio,” the Amateur Radio Service has been around for a century. In that time, it’s grown into a worldwide community of licensed operators using the airwaves with every conceivable means of communications technology. Hams range in age from youngsters to grandparents. Even rocket scientists and a rock star or two are in the ham ranks. Most, however, are just normal folks like you and me who enjoy learning and being able to transmit voice, data and pictures through the air to unusual places, both near and far, without depending on commercial systems.

The Amateur Radio frequencies are the last remaining place in the usable radio spectrum where you as an individual can develop and experiment with wireless communications. Hams not only can make and modify their equipment, but can create whole new ways to do things.

Come join us on **Saturday, June 23, from 2:00 PM to 6:00 PM and Sunday, June 24, from 8:00 AM to Noon**, and see Amateur Radio in action for yourself. Sit down at the microphone and allow a Ham coach you as you get on the air yourself. Learn how you, too, can earn an Amateur Radio License. Become one of over 700,000 Amateur Radio Operators throughout the US, ready to respond. **“When All Else Fails, Ham Radio Works!”**