



Simulated Emergency Test 2008

Saturday, October 4, 2008 0900 to 1200

“Activate .. Activate .. Activate !”

1. **Purpose:** Test the readiness of the ARRL Wisconsin Section ARES/RACES organization to handle emergency communications during a communications emergency by exercising proper communications procedure. Then, evaluate the effectiveness of communications demonstrated during the exercise.
2. **Goals:**
 - a. Test the effectiveness of local/county ARES/RACES activation plans and statewide communications capabilities.
 - b. Pass the maximum number of formal and tactical messages using standard message formats
3. **Objectives:**
 - a. Maximize participation by all Wisconsin amateur radio operators.
 - b. Operate as many stations as possible on emergency power.
 - c. Activate all county and district nets and assign a liaison station to their respective district and state nets.¹
 - d. Activate as many Emergency Operations Center (EOC) stations as possible.
 - e. Activate ARES/RACES HF net and the Badger Emergency Net (BEN).²
 - f. Use as many modes as possible (HF CW and phone, VHF and UHF phone, Winlink 2000³, ATV, PacTOR, PSK63, etc.)
 - g. Encourage served agencies to participate by passing message traffic.
 - h. Encourage media coverage by sending press releases to local print and broadcast outlets.
4. **Exercise Scenario:** The emphasis for this year's SET is for local ARES/RACES organizations to exercise their local activation plans to generate as many fixed and mobile stations as possible. Then, using proper procedure, pass the maximum amount of traffic using formal and tactical message formats.

District and local ARES/RACES organizations are encouraged to develop scenarios that exercise their unique requirements, skills and capabilities. Stations should exercise their emergency power capabilities. However, lack of emergency power should not prevent any station from participating in the SET.
5. **General Instructions:**
 - a. Each SET participant: should:
 - i. Have some fun! Experiment with different modes. Try new bands and modes.
 - ii. Respond to and operate from EOCs and other served agency facilities, if asked.
 - iii. Operate on emergency power, if available.
 - iv. Send his/her EC a message announcing the opening and closing of their station.
 - v. Report your station's activities to your EC for inclusion in his/her SET activity report.
 - b. Emergency Coordinators should:
 - i. Prior to the SET:
 1. Encourage and train all hams to participate in the SET regardless of membership in ARES/RACES.
 2. Arrange to have at least one community and/or county EOC active during the SET.
 3. Publicize local SET activities. Send a press release to local print and broadcast outlets. A press release is an easy ten extra points!
 - ii. During the SET:
 1. Activate local hams and net(s) using established activation plans.
 2. Send the DEC formal messages announcing the opening and closing of the local net.
 3. Ensure that message traffic passes into and out of their county.
 - iii. After the SET:
 1. Submit SET Form A to the ARRL (sewald@arrl.org) and Skip Sharpe, W9REL, (w9rel@arrl.net).
 2. Ensure the net mgr submits SET Form B to the ARRL (sewald@arrl.org) and Skip Sharpe, W9REL, w9rel@arrl.net).
 - c. District Emergency Coordinators should:
 - i. Prior to the SET:
 1. Coordinate local and district SET activities with the ECs in their districts.
 2. Provide assistance as requested to implement the SET.
 3. Ensure one or more district nets provide communications between county nets and the state nets.
 - ii. During the SET:
 1. Send the SEC formal messages announcing the opening and closing of the district net.
 2. Ensure that county and state level message traffic passes into and out of the district.

¹ If no county or district net is activated, try checking in with an adjoining net. If no adjoining county or district net is available, and you're appropriately licensed, check in with the statewide ARES/RACES HF net.

² Traffic is moved to and from the NTS via the BEN.

³ Wisconsin ARES/RACES encourages section stations to implement and use WinLink 2000.



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- iii. After the SET:
 - 1. Ensure the district net mgr submits SET Form B to the ARRL (sewald@arrl.org) and Skip Sharpe, W9REL, ASEC, Training (w9rel@arrl.net).
 - d. Use established emergency communication and frequency plans.
 - i. The ARES/RACES HF net, if activated, will be on 3977.5 KHz LSB,
 - ii. The Badger Emergency net will be the NTS traffic outlet and will operate on 3985 KHz.
 - 1. Direct WinLink 2000 traffic bound for the NTS to any WinLink capable station that can access the Badger Emergency Net.
 - e. Use the “Simulated Emergency Test” designation in each formal and tactical message. Identify communications as “drill” or “test” often.
 - f. This guidance is basic and is purposefully vague. Each county should use all available resources. Additional information is available on the ARRL website at <http://www.arrl.org/FandES/field/setguide.html>.
 - i. And remember: **Have fun and be creative!**

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