

LANE ARES/RACES EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS PLAN

Here is the working Operational Plan for Lane County ARES/RACES.

Everyone should keep a copy with their go kit, as a part of their readiness gear. In addition, everyone should add a copy of the then current Lane County ARES/RACES Frequency Chart with their copy of this Plan.

This Plan is dated November 1, 2009, and supersedes all earlier versions.

This is an addendum to the ARES/RACES Communications Failure Plan for the State of Oregon, dated January 1, 2008.

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ACTIVATION

Under Oregon law, the local county's Emergency Manager is charged with making formal declarations of emergencies. As such, the Emergency Manager would normally be the one to activate the unit in Lane County on a county wide emergency.

Note that the ARES unit is not a "self" activating organization.

In the event of an emergency, monitor the 146.680 [100 PL] for instructions. Monitor means listen on the frequency, but do not take any action unless either directed by an authorized ARES leader or under specific pre-written instructions or procedures.

Localized incidents, or public service events, will be handled by sub-parts of the ARES unit under specific procedures set up for the incident by the ARES leadership.

EOC CALL SIGNS

The call sign used by Lane County EOC on HF, VHF, UHF, packet and Factor is W7EUG. The packet mail box call sign is W7EUG-3.

Note: the Lane County OADN station is now up and running at the Courthouse. The RMS Packet station is W7EUG-10 and is on 145.030. The HF Factor station is W7EUG and its "center" frequency is 3.591 MHz.

The call sign used by the City of Eugene EOC will be W7COE. The City's packet mail box call sign will be W7COE-3.

The call sign used at the Springfield EOC will be W7SFD. Its packet mail box call sign will be W7SFD-3.

The call sign for the Red Cross will be W7PXL. Its packet mail box call sign will be W7PXL-3.

South Lane County will use W7ZQE for operations and W7ZQE-3 for its packet mail box.

NET CONTROL

For County wide events, the Net Control Station will be W7EUG, located at the Lane County Courthouse.

For City of Eugene centered events, the Net Control Station will be W7COE, either from the City EOC or the 911 Center.

For events centered in Springfield, the Net Control Station will be W7SFD, from the Springfield Justice Center.

For South County based events, the Net Control Station will be W7ZQE, from either the Cottage Grove Police Station or from the Hospital.

For Red Cross support services, the Net Control Station will be W7PXL.

NET CONTROL OPERATORS

Various members of the ARES unit will take training as Net Control Operators and when available, should take control of any Lane County Resource Net, to take EM COMM operator check ins, and then be the ones to determine who will be any tactical net control operators, and also, to assign EM COMM check ins to appropriate tactical nets.

OVERVIEW - NET PROCEDURES

	<u>County</u>	<u>City</u>	<u>West Lane</u>
Resource Net	146.68	146.88	146.80
Tactical Net	Chart by Area	147.08	442.575**

** For West Lane to Eugene/Springfield route, try 145.31 repeater.

Note:

1. Resource Nets.

A. A Resource Net exists to take check ins of EM COMM operators, give out tactical assignments, monitoring event/incident/disaster until all EM COMM nets are closed, and in case of need, calling for additional resource check ins.

B. Unless the situation requires something else, it is recommended that the check ins be taken by area, as assignments will usually be to assign EM COMM operators to a tactical location closest to their location when checking in.

EG: Take outer areas first and then spiral in - for example, might do East County, then North County, then West County, then South County, followed by West Eugene, Eugene, East Springfield, and then Springfield.

C. Be mindful of the resource net and tactical net frequencies used by adjacent counties.

2. Each Tactical Net is used for the actual operations in a geographic area, or other tactical assignment. The frequency used will be based upon the instructions of the Resource Net's Net Control Operator, but will generally follow the ARES Frequency Chart.

EG: Tactical calls should usually identify the location of the tactical station or the purpose of the tactical location - Springfield Justice Center, Oakridge Fire, etc.

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State ARES/RACES Simplex is 146.460 MHz.

Local peer-to-peer VHF Airmail is 145.010 MHz or as announced by the Lane EOC Net Control Operator.

NET CONTROL STATION RESPONSIBILITIES

1. The Net Control Station ("NCS") must be able to stay on the air under any conditions, including loss of commercial power and telephone service. The NCS should have battery or generator power sufficient to stay on the air for 72 hours.

2. When managing a Resource Net, the NCS must use directed net control procedures for the purpose of taking check-ins and then making tactical assignments of each of the volunteers who checked into the net. The NCS should use the Lane ARES Frequency Chart, and come up on the proper frequency for the served agency or geographic area, announce the opening of the net as a directed net, and commence NCS duties.

The NCS should not hesitate to use relays where appropriate. It may also be appropriate to pass the NCS function off to another NCS operator under the procedures in place with a particular served agency or under existing emergency plans.

3. The NCS must keep a log of check-ins, and log assignments made by operators upon checking in. The Lane County ARES/RACES NCS standard operating procedure includes all the forms necessary for acting as NCS.

4. In making assignments when acting as resource net, the NCS should limit assignments to a maximum of 12 hours. That includes the operator acting as NCS, either under standing plans or on the fly, must appoint another ham as the next NCS for the next shift.

5. When a NCS is running a Tactical Net, the NCS operator should keep a complete log of all communications, all messages, and all traffic handled on each shift of that Tactical Net. The goal is completeness of a permanent record of the incident or event, but the log need not be an elaborate one.

6. All communications and traffic should be handled by order of precedence:

EMERGENCY - immediate threat to life or property exists

PRIORITY - urgent but not emergency subject matter

WELFARE - message about health, safety or welfare of victims

ROUTINE - subject matter not an emergency or priority.

2 METER FREQUENCY PLAN

Principal Repeaters:

Lane County EOC	146.68
City of Eugene EOC	146.88
City of Springfield EOC	146.74
Cottage Grove/South	146.76
Central Region	145.45
Mohawk Valley	145.74, 145.45
McKenzie Valley	145.37
Willamette River	146.98
West Lane County	146.80, 145.31
Red Cross	146.72
LCSARO portable repeater	145.25 - if set up

2 Meter Simplex Frequencies

146.420	
146.440	City of Springfield, EARS
146.460	South Regions; also West Lane - west of Hwy 126 tunnel
146.480	West Regions
146.500	
146.520	
146.540	McKenzie River Regions
146.560	Central and Willamette Regions
146.580	Hospitals, Lane Memorial Blood Bank
147.400	
147.420	Red Cross, Valley Radio Club
147.440	
147.460	City of Eugene EOC
147.480	Linn County
147.500	Douglas County
147.520	
147.510	Benton County
147.540	
147.560	Willamette Region
147.580	Lane County EOC

NOTE: both the ARES Frequency Chart and the ARES Packet Frequency Chart are available for download as PDF files on the VRC website, www.valleyradioclub.org [see the Em Comm link] and the LCSARO website, www.lcsaro.org [see Frequency link]. All EM COMM ham volunteers should keep copies of the current Charts in their shack, car and with their Go Kits.

PRE-PLACED EMCOMM ANTENNAS

Lane County:

Oakridge FD - VHF
Sacred Heart - University District Hospital - VHF
Sacred Heart - Riverbend - VHF/UHF
Eugene Public Library - VHF/UHF
Eugene EOC - VHF/UHF
911 Center - VHF/UHF
Springfield Justice Center - VHF/UHF/HF
McKenzie Willamette Hospital - VHF/UHF
Springfield FS #3 - VHF/UHF
Court House - VHF/UHF/HF
Red Cross -VHF/UHF/HF
Lane Memorial Blood Bank - VHF
Cascade Manor - Eugene - VHF
Cottage Grove Hospital - VHF/UHF/HF including Pactor 3
Goshen FD - 2 meter

Oregon ARES Digital Network station - Lane County Courthouse

West Lane County:

Justice Center - VHF/UHF/HF including PACTOR 3
Peace Harbor Hospital - VHF/UHF
Florence Fire Station - VHF/UHF/HF including PACTOR 3

Lane County Pending:

Mohawk Valley FS #1 - VHF/UHF
Leaburg FS - VHF/UHF
East Springfield - VHF/UHF
Lane Rural Fire and Rescue - 3 stations, VHF/UHF
Dexter Fire - VHF