

Prince George's County Amateur Radio Emergency Service

(ARES®) is a volunteer field service organization of the American Radio Relay League available to Federal, state, county and local governments, as well as non-profit organizations.

What is Amateur Radio?

More than 700,000 U.S. radio operators licensed by the Federal Communications Commission. Amateur Radio is not Citizen's Band Radio.

What is The Amateur Radio Emergency Service?

More than 35,000 amateurs nationwide who have voluntarily registered their services and formed an organized pool of trained operators to provide reliable primary and secondary communications links for government agencies and/or non-profit organizations when needed.

What do Amateur Radio operators do during and after disasters?

Amateur Radio operators set up and operate organized communication networks locally for governmental and emergency officials, as well as non-commercial communication for private citizens affected by the disaster. Amateur Radio operators are most likely to be active after disasters that damage regular lines of communications due to power outages and destruction of telephone, cellular and other infrastructure-dependent systems.

How do Amateur Radio operators help local officials?

Many radio amateurs are active as communications volunteers with local public safety organizations. In addition, in some disasters, radio frequencies are not coordinated among relief officials and Amateur Radio operators step in to coordinate communication when radio towers and other elements in the communications infrastructure are damaged.

Our Purpose

is to implement Part 97.1 of the FCC regulations, and Federal and international treaty law applying to Amateur Radio Service in Prince George's County, Maryland.

97.1 Basis and purpose.

1. Recognition and enhancement of the value of the amateur service to the public as a voluntary non-commercial communication service, particularly with respect to providing emergency communications. . .[Emphasis added]

Meetings and On-the-Air Nets

Prince George's County ARES® meets the third Monday of each month at 7:30pm at:

Prince George's Co. Fire Services Building
6820 Webster St., Hyattsville, MD 20784

On the air meetings take place on the K3ERA repeater - 145.230MHz- (pl 110.9) at 7:30pm every Tuesday. HF Hospital Coalition NET on the Wednesday after the third Monday on 3820 kHz -LSB at 7:00pm. You do not have to be a member of ARES® to join either net. All amateurs are welcome.

Prince George's County Hospital Coalition Project

The main focus of the Prince George's County ARES® group is to provide back up communications to a coalition of seven healthcare facilities throughout the county. They are:

Bowie Health Center
15001 Health Center Drive
Bowie, Maryland 20716

Doctor's Community Hospital
8118 Goodluck Road
Lanham, Maryland 20706

Ft. Washington Medical Center
11711 Livingston Rd
Fort Washington, MD 20744

Laurel Regional Hospital
7300 Van Dusen Road
Laurel, Maryland 20707

Prince George's Hospital Center
3001 Hospital Drive
Cheverly, MD 20785

MedStar Southern Maryland Hospital Center
7503 Surratts Road
Clinton, Maryland 20735

Prince George's County Health Department
1701 McCormick Drive
Largo, MD 20774-5329

Some examples of emergencies that Prince George's County ARES® provided emergency communication services:

DC Earthquake & Hurricane Irene – 2011

Presidential Inauguration – 2008

Hurricanes Katrina and Rita -- 2005

Severe weather in Virginia -- 2004

Hurricane Isabel -- 2003

La Plata, MD Tornado -- 2002

College Park Tornado – 2001

Some examples of public services that PG-ARES® offered communication services to the public:

Annual U.S. Marine Corp Marathon

Various Health Walk-a-thons Bike

Races Annual National Night Out

ARES® Internet Email over Radio Frequency

ARES® nationwide can use Email over Radio Frequency System called WinLink Express. Without an internet connection anywhere, standard emails can still get through to intended recipients. We have both HF, VHF and UHF Internet Gateways to insert emails into the internet. This serves Prince George's County governments and health care facilities throughout the county as well. When All Else Fails, Amateur Radio Works!

For More Information

Prince George's County, Md
PG-ARES®/RACES web site:

<http://www.pgares.org/>

Prince George's County, MD
PG-ARES®/RACES Yahoo Group reflector:

<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/PG-AresRaces/>

ARRL web site:

<http://www.arrl.org>

National ARES® web site:

<http://www.ares.org/>

General Questions email

info@pgares.org

Membership information email

membership@pgares.org

Mailing Address:

PG-ARES®

Prince George's County Fire Svcs Bldg

6820 Webster Street

Hyattsville, Maryland 20784



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Prince George's County, MD Amateur Radio Emergency Service **PG-ARES**



Providing Voluntary Emergency Communications In Times of Need

Sponsored By



The American Radio
Relay League