

HAM RADIO FIELD DAY 2018 GUIDE

(Last Updated 6/8/18 5:00PM)

A. INTRODUCTION

"HAM RADIO FIELD DAY 2018" is being sponsored by the Washington County Amateur Radio Club, and will take place Saturday and Sunday, June 23rd-24th, at:

Prairie Hill Rocky Hill Volunteer Fire Department
7559 FM 50
Brenham, TX 77833

This will be a time of fun spent celebrating the Amateur Radio hobby, with a focus on the tradition of Ham radio communications, public emergency service, and preparedness. All interested amateur radio operators are invited to participate, regardless of your home QTH, County, or Club affiliations.

If you have never talked on a HAM radio before, this is your chance. A license HAM operator will show you the art of HAM radio operation. We welcome the public to come learn more about ham radio.

What is FIELD DAY (FD)?

Field Day is HAM radio's open house. Every June, more than 40,000 hams throughout North America set up temporary transmitting stations in public places to demonstrate ham radio's science, skill and service to our communities and our nation. It combines public service, emergency preparedness, community outreach, and technical skills all in a single event. Field Day has been an annual event since 1933, and remains the most popular event in ham radio.

B. EMERGENCY EXERCISES

Each Ham Radio participant may choose to join an ARRL FIELD DAY TEAM, who will be attempting to be "in for the count" on the national ARRL FD CONTEST. But that is not for everyone. Others may opt for an EMERGENCY EXERCISE TEAM, which will not have the strict logging and reporting requirements. Still others may choose to participate as individual GO-BOX stations (a self-supporting portable HAM radio station). In any case, each can choose to engage in the activities in a manner consistent with their own schedules, desires and interests.

All amateur radio operators wishing to engage in the Emergency Exercises are requested to pre-register by Sunday, June 17th, 2018. RSVP your desire to register for participation via email to w5fuy@arrl.net, and include your call-sign, name, email address, and phone number. Also include a short description of your station, if you are bringing one, and the way you expect to participate, and when and for how long. You will receive verification by return email.

Pre-registration and the schedule are meant to be understood as guidelines only. Anyone wishing to take part will be accommodated to the degree possible, and allowed to set up, operate, and take down, and come and go, during the event as he may choose. This is true even if you are a "walk-in", and not pre-registered at all. Pre-registration is to provide planning information to the Field Day Team. Note that some limitations may apply to cases of unscheduled and non-preregistered participation. Note also that by logging-in at the entrance to the event, each participant is agreeing to abide by the direction and coordination efforts of the Field Day Management Team.

1. ARRL Contest Field Day Teams

These are the participants who want to create or participate in an ARRL Field Day Team (<http://www.arrl.org/field-day>), with the intent of fully participating according to ARRL Field Day rules. They will use a common call sign, usually that of their club. All teams will perform the logging required and submit the proper paperwork following the contest or upload it online. An additional copy will be sent to the Washington County Amateur Radio Club for use in overall event statistics.

These efforts are engaged in so that Field Day contacts are in “for the count”, that is, the points earned by our contacts will contribute to the total statistics that will be used by the ARRL/IAU lobbyists, Congressmen, and various publicity efforts aimed to promote and justify the Amateur Radio Hobby's use of the radio frequency spectrum. The WCARC ARRL Field Day Team will likely become a 24-hour effort, however, other such teams or clubs may choose their own operating duration.

2. Emergency Exercise Field Day Teams

Not everyone will want to be part of a contesting oriented team effort, but will still want to participate in a team effort. These Emergency Exercise Field Day Teams will use a club or individual's call-sign. They will log their contacts or not as they wish. However, proper logging is encouraged to add to the over-all event statistics.

3. GO-BOX Field Day Participants

Some participants will choose to engage in Field Day as an solo individual participant, what we call a GO-BOX participant (a self-supporting portable HAM radio station). These individual participants will engage fully in the FD Emergency Exercises, but in the manner and on the schedule he/she chooses. They will also log their contacts or not as they wish. Proper logging is, however, also encouraged for them as well, so as to add to the over-all event statistics.

C. EYE-BALL QSO'ERS AND VISITORS

Visiting ham operators and the general public are invited to join into the fun and celebration of ham radio. All hams and visitors will be required to log-in upon entering the facility.

D. OFFICAL EVENT T-SHIRTS

EVENT T-SHIRTS will not be available this year. The complications surrounding the time constraints and procedures involved has resulted in the decision not to have them this time around. Thank you for your interest.

E. MEAL RESERVATIONS

Lunch and Dinner will be served on Saturday. Reservations are required. Water and Iced-Tea will be provided. Any other drinks you may desire are permitted and encouraged, but you must provide for them yourself.

F. FIELD DAY SITE LOCATION

Prairie Hill Rocky Hill Volunteer Fire Department, 7559 FM 50, Brenham, TX.

G. CALL-IN FREQUENCY

The call-in frequency will be the WCARC 70 cm Repeater on 443.250+ with a 103.5 CTCSS Tone.

H. FIELD DAY MANAGEMENT TEAM

FIELD DAY MANAGER	- Tom Arledge	W5CVK
FOOD OPERATIONS	- Gary Baldwin	KF5ZRT
TREASURER/SECURITY	- Lee McWilliams	K5FLM
CLUB PRESIDENT	- Ron Perry	N5LLE
RESERVATIONS	- David Gilpin	W5FUJ

(continued below)

I. FIELD DAY SCHEDULE

SATURDAY, JUNE 23rd

- AM** 9:00 SET-UP
ARRL Contest FD Teams
Emergency Exercise FD Teams
GO-BOX FD Participants
11:00 STATION TESTING
12:00 LUNCH AND EXERCISE BRIEFING - (reservations required)
- PM** 1:00 EMERGENCY EXERCISES BEGIN (1PM Saturday - 1PM Sunday)
ARRL Contest FD Teams
Emergency Exercise FD Teams
GO-BOX FD Participants
6:00 EYE-BALL QSO PARTY AND FAMILY ACTIVITIES
7:00 DINNER (reservations required)

SUNDAY, JUNE 24th

- AM** EMERGENCY EXERCISES CONTINUE (Midnight AM until 1PM)
ARRL Contest FD Teams
Emergency Exercise FD Teams
GO-BOX FD Participants
- PM** 1:00 EMERGENCY EXERCISES TERMINATE
Note: All participants will terminate operations at 1:00 PM CST (1800 hrs UCT), regardless of their setup time, even if technically permitted to continue under ARRL Field Day rules.
1:00 SITE CLEANUP (All participants are requested to take part in this effort.)

NOTICE: Please direct via email your pre-registration information, Saturday meal reservations, and any suggestions, corrections, or questions you may have to: **David W5FUY** at w5fuy@arrl.net