

Amateur Radio Emergency Service®/Clarke County Siren Exercise
February 4, 2009
Objectives and Procedures

Objectives:

1. Test the VHF/UHF stations at the Clarke County ARES served agencies: Clarke Co. EMA, East Georgia Red Cross, St. Mary's Hospital, and the Northeast Georgia Public Health,
2. Provide real-time siren activation reports to the Clarke Co. EMA
3. Provide ARES members the opportunity to pass tactical messages and use tactical calls
4. Provide ARES members the opportunity to test their equipment and ability to connect with various 2-meter repeaters
5. Provide the opportunity to ARES members to test their ability to change frequencies quickly in case of a repeater failure
6. Test the ability of ARES members and their equipment to operate in simplex mode from various locations in Banks, Jackson, Madison, Oconee, Oglethorpe and Clarke County. This includes the Clarke Co. siren sites and the Clarke County ARES served agencies EOCs.
7. Provide the ARES members the opportunity to work with the Clarke County EMA
8. Provide an opportunity for ARES and RACES groups from other counties to practice and work together

Operating Procedures:

The Net Control Station (NCS) will be located at the Clarke County EMA and will start a check-in net at 8:30 a.m. on the KD4QHB repeater (146.745 – T123.0). The NCS will ask for an alternate Net Control Station in case there is a problem during the exercise. All stations should be prepared to take this responsibility. It is recommended that all home stations participating keep records of check-ins for practice and in case a communication breakdown occurs for the NCS. The NCS and alternate NCS should be prepared to give directions to the siren sites if that information is needed. All stations should have the repeaters listed in the repeater chart (see below) programmed in their radio. The NCS should also assign a station for the Georgia ARES State-wide Net on 3.975 MHz.

Stations assigned to sirens should be on site by 8:40 am. Stations checking in should give the following information: Call Sign, Name, Location or Tactical Call (see list below for siren sites), and operating watts.

After check-ins are taken on the KD4QHB repeater, the NCS will give instructions to participants to switch to other repeaters. During the first net on the KD4QHB repeater, the NCS will announce that all stations should return to the KD4QHB repeater between each repeater test or if the sirens are activated. The NCS will start by calling roll on each repeater using the siren list and check-ins from other repeater tests before calling for check-ins on each new repeater.

All stations monitoring the sirens should report to the NCS the number of rotations the siren horn made, seconds of activation and if the siren was audible.

After the exercise, there will be a short hot wash and the NCS will ask for comments on the exercise.

Siren Location	Tactical Call	Bearings
Sandy Creek Park	Sandy Creek	N 34 01 33.4, W 83 22 58.0
Holland Sports Complex	Holland Sports	N 33 59 52.4, W 83 24 19.1
Bishop Park	Bishop Park	N33 57 55.9, W 83 24 41.5
Broad Street	Broad Street	N 33 56 57.4, W 83 24 46.2
Chemistry Building	Chemistry	N 33 56 53.8, W 83 22 29.7
Married Housing	Married Housing	N 33 55 28.4, W 83 22 36.1
Hillsman School	Hillsman	N 33 55 53.5, W 82 20 07.0
Winterville 5-points Park	Winterville Park	N 33 58 25.1, W 83 17 16.3
Southeast Clarke Park	Clarke Park	N 33 55 39.1, W 83 18 21.2
Clarke County Fire Station # 1	Net Control	N 33 57 46.0, W 83 22 33.8
Botanical Gardens	Botanical Gardens	N 33 54 12.4, W 83 22 58.1

Other ARES/RACES Stations:

East Georgia Red Cross EOC

Northeast Georgia Public Health EOC

Home Relay Station to Georgia ARES State-wide Net on 3.975 MHz

Home Relay Station to National Weather Service APRS Net

2-meter Repeaters and Frequencies Tested:

KD4AOZ in Watkinsville (147.045 + 123.0)

K4TQU in Crawford (147.375 + 127.3)

W4EEE in Bogart (147.000 + 85.4)

N4ALE in Colbert (147.3000 + 123.0)

NE4GA in Commerce (147.225 + 123.0)

N4ZRA in Athens (442.950 + 179.9)

SIMPLEX (146.520)

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Net Script

This is (Call and Name) with the Clarke Co. ARES conducting the annual Clarke Co. Siren Exercise for the Clarke County EMA. During this exercise we plan to accomplish the following objectives:

1. Test the VHF/UHF stations at the Clarke County ARES served agencies, if possible: Clarke Co. EMA, East Georgia Red Cross, St. Mary's Hospital, and the Northeast Georgia Public Health,
2. Provide real-time siren activation reports to the Clarke Co. EMA
3. Provide ARES members the opportunity to pass tactical messages and use tactical calls
4. Provide ARES members the opportunity to test their equipment and ability to connect with various 2-meter repeaters
5. Provide the opportunity to ARES members to test their ability to change frequencies quickly in case of a repeater failure
6. Test the ability of ARES members and their equipment to operate in simplex mode from various locations and counties
7. Provide the ARES members the opportunity to work with the Clarke County EMA
8. Provide an opportunity for ARES and RACES groups from other counties to practice and work together

Your Net Control is located at the Clarke County EMA and we are operating on the KD4QHB repeater (146.745 – T123.0).

Do I have any station that can operate as the Alternate Net Control Station? (Take a volunteer)

All stations should be prepared to take this responsibility. It is recommended that all home stations participating keep records of check-ins for practice and in case a communication breakdown occurs for the NCS and the Alternate Net Control. The NCS and Alternate NCS should be prepared to give directions to the siren sites if that information is needed.

Is the relay station for the Georgia ARES State-wide Net on 3.975 MHz on frequency? (N4VHA – Ed)

Is the relay station for the National Weather Service APRS on frequency? (KR4MS - Nick)

Please remember that all stations assigned to sirens should be on site by 8:40 am.

At this time we will call roll and then take check-ins.

Stations checking in should give the following information: Call Sign, Name, Location or Tactical Call, operating watts and if you are at your assigned location or mobile to that site.

Sandy Creek Park (K4FWH – Chuck)

Holland Sports (N3TL – Tim)

Bishop Park (KJ4ESB – Jana)

Broad Street (AF4TQ – Phil)

Chemistry Building (KJ4IHJ – Brigitte)

Married Housing (KE4JLL – Bob)

Hillsman School (N4CUA – Paul)

Winterville 5-points (KE4OGD – Robert)

Southeast Clarke Park (KI4DCX - Scott)

Botanical Gardens (KJ4HXA – Joe)

Northeast Public Health (KJ4HXE – Penni)

Red Cross (N4ZRA - Ed)

At this time we will now take other stations that wish to join the net. Please give your call sign, name, and location.

(Take other check-ins)

During this exercise, all stations monitoring the sirens should report to the NCS the number of rotations the siren horn completed, seconds of operation and if the siren was audible or not audible.

After the exercise, there will be a short hot wash and the NCS will ask for comments on the exercise.

At this time we will test our communication system through various repeaters and then via simplex.

Net Control will announce the repeater to be tested and then all stations should go to that frequency. The NCS will call roll from the check-in list just taken and then check for any new check-ins. After check-ins are taken on the repeater being tested, Net Control will give instructions to participants to go back to this repeater for the next repeater frequency to be tested. If at any time during the frequency test the sirens should sound, please record your siren information and then return to this frequency.

2-meter Repeaters and Frequencies Tested:

1) KD4AOZ in Watkinsville (147.045 + 123.0)

2) K4TQU in Crawford (147.375 + 127.3)

3) W4EEE in Bogart (147.000 + 85.4)

4) N4ALE in Colbert (147.3000 + 123.0)

5) NE4GA in Commerce (147.225 + 123.0) – Check first to see if the repeater is in use. If it is, see if the NCS will allow our stations to check-in to their net. Record their check-ins of our stations.

6) N4ZRA in Athens (442.950 + 179.9)

7) SIMPLEX (146.520)

Siren Activation Report
February 4, 2009

Location	Audio (Audio/No Audio)	Operation Time (Seconds)	Number of Rotations
Clarke Co. EMA (NCS) Fire Station #1			
Sandy Creek Park			
Holland Sports Complex			
Bishop Park			
Broad Street (Across from Kinko's)			
Chemistry Building UGA			
Married Housing UGA			
Hillsman School			
Winterville 5-points Park			
Southeast Clarke Park			
Botanical Gardens UGA			

C	Clear audio, no white noise		8:30 AM						
U	Understandable, some white noise		1	2	3	4	5	6	7
RD	Readable with some difficulty		Athens	Bogart	Watkinsville	Crawford	Colbert	Commerce	SIMPLEX 147.580
NR	Not readable		KD4QHB	W4EEE	KD4AOZ	K4TQU	N4ALE	NE4GA	
NS	No signal		146.745	147.000	147.045	147.375	147.300	147.225	
SS	Station Secured		downshift	upshift	upshift	upshift	upshift	upshift	
			123.0	85.4	123.0	127.3	123.0	123.0	
Location	Call	Power							
Clarke Co. EMA (NCS) Fire Station #1	WA4DYD KG4WHA	25 Watts	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	Not Applicable
Sandy Creek Park	K4FWH								
Holland Sports Complex	N3TL								
Bishop Park	KJ4ESB								
Broad Street (Across from Kinko's)	AF4TQ								
Chemistry Building UGA	KJ4IHJ								
Married Housing UGA	KE4JLL								
Hillsman School	N4CUA								
Winterville 5-points Park	KE4OGD								
Southeast Clarke Park	KI4DCX								

