

What is ARES ?

The Amateur Radio Emergency Services (ARES) consists of Federally licensed amateurs who have voluntarily registered their qualifications and equipment for communication duty in the public interest, especially when disaster strikes. Every licensed amateur, regardless of membership in ARRL or any local or national organizations, may participate in these communications. The only qualification, other than possession of an Amateur Radio License, is a sincere desire to serve.

The ARES group participate in such activities as:

Parades, Golfing Events, “Walk America,”

“Diabetes Walk,” and “MS Bike-A-Thon”



Although *RACES* and *ARES* are separate entities, the ARRL advocates dual membership and cooperative efforts between both groups. Using the same operators and the same frequencies, an ARES group also enrolled in RACES can “switch hats” from ARES to RACES and RACES to ARES to meet requirements of the situation as it develops.

Y.A.R.S. — York ARES RACES Skywarn is dual purpose communications’ group.

HEARS — Hospital Emergency Amateur Radio is a separate entity. They provide communications within their facilities and between other York County hospitals. Their main focus is hospital communications when other means fail or are overloaded. Both *HEARS* and *YARS* will work together in a disaster communicating with each other.

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:

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YORK COUNTY OFFICE OF
EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

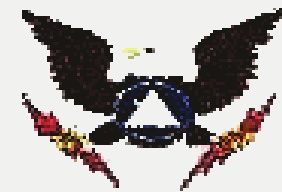
Y.A.R.S.

York
Ares
Races
Skywarn



AMATEUR
RADIO
SERVICE

YARS



York, PA

717-840-2990



When is RACES needed?

The RACES organization of Amateur Radio operators is vital during emergencies such as:

- National Disasters/WMD *
- Tornadoes/Hurricanes
- Winter/Summer Storms
- Earthquakes/Floods
- Nuclear Accidents/"Dirty Bombs"
- Blackouts/Gas Outages
- Fires/Haz-Mat Incidents/Rescues

Frequently, normal communications systems sustain damage during these types of emergencies. It is then that RACES operators become invaluable to emergency managers. RACES operators are the only amateur operators permitted on the air. In a "Presidential declared emergency," RACES operators are assigned specific frequencies within authorized frequency bands, as directed by the Federal Communications Commission. RACES will relay information to a communications center. This information is provided to and then evaluated by Emergency Management personnel. This method assists in maintaining the flow of valuable "on-scene" information.

What is RACES?

Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Services

provides amateur radio emergency communications only, during periods of local, regional or national emergencies.

RACES is administered by Local/County/State Emergency Management agencies with guidance from FEMA*.

Amateur radio is also an essential link to help warn people about weather disasters. Many radio operators participate in Skywarn, which is part of the National Weather Service (NWS). Skywarn spotters have basic weather training. They assist NWS by reporting important weather information. This information can be used to help warn the public as quickly as possible about potential severe weather conditions.



Who are the RACES Personnel?

RACES people are all VOLUNTEERS!

In an emergency, these volunteers come together to work as a TEAM!

They utilize their *privately owned equipment*.

They bring a lot of experience in radio to the field of **emergency** communications. They are self-sustaining and maintain/fix their own equipment.

RACES personnel use different "*modes*" to communicate:

Voice with Hand-Held Radios or mobile radio

Packet (Digital) communications

APRS Global Positioning System with radio

Slow Scan Television (sending pictures via Amateur radio)

Fast Scan TV similar to TV, but via radio frequency

* Federal Emergency Management Agency

* Weapons of Mass Destruction