

The HAM'ER



October-December 2017

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Tips on getting ready for Winter Weather



Chief editor/publisher of The HAM'ER: Ron Burke

Front Page News : ARE YOU READY FOR AN EMERGENCY/DISASTER ?

- ⇒ *DO YOU HAVE A PLAN IN CASE SOMETHING HAPPENS ?*
- ⇒ *DOES THE FAMILY KNOW OF THIS PLAN ?*



Photo: R.Burke

Message from the Emergency Coordinator

Good time to start an emergency plan is before it happens !

In our communities, power lines may go down, leading to a communications emergency. This is a good time to familiarize yourself with basic winter preparedness guidelines.

The National Weather Service can benefit through our reporting of dangerous winter weather conditions such as heavy snowfall and high winds. You can also find them online at: www.nws.noaa.gov/om/winter

Ron Burke KB9DJJA



PREPAREDNESS IN SEPTEMBER

During the month of September, Hendricks County ARES is proclaiming it “PREPAREDNESS” month. We encourage you to take some time out this month to sit down and plan on what steps to take in the event of an emergency in and around your neighborhood or area where you live and/or work. Then have a practice drill/exercise to get you and your family familiar with your plan.

“Although we may not be able to avoid a disaster, we can be prepared for one”

First thing to know is what kind of disasters are common where you live. If you don’t know, check with the local police and fire departments, the American Red Cross, any state or local emergency management agencies.

- Make sure your family’s insurance is adequate. Floods, for an example, are not usually covered in standard homeowner policies.
- Take video and photographs of valuables and record serial numbers. Keep these in a safe place, such as a safety deposit box. They will help prove what your family owned if your home is damaged or destroyed.

After a disaster happens, everything changes. The effects of different disasters can vary widely. Listed below are some common effects that may occur;

- Electricity, water, and phones (including cell phones) may not work. * Police and rescue workers may not be able to reach you for some time. * Public transportation may not run. * Traffic signals and street signs may be down and roads may be impassable. * Familiar landmarks may be gone. * Stores may be closed, and ATM’s may not work. * Gas stations may be closed and gas pumps may not work.

Have a Plan for Yourself and Your Family

- ⇒ **The time to prepare for a disaster is before it happens!** Make sure each family member know what to do in each type of disaster. Have a plan for where and how to meet if separated. Choose a relative or friend who’s out-of-state whom all family members will contact/check in with if they become separated.
- ⇒ Be sure to have a plan to check on a loved one or neighbor who is living by themselves.

Helping Others

One of the benefits of being prepared is that you can help others when a disaster strikes.

Know your neighbors so that you can check on them and vice versa.



Hendricks County
Amateur Radio Emergency Service

Making an Emergency Communication Plan

Make an Emergency Communication Plan

This article, is from the Ready.gov website, [Make A Plan](#) page, explains what an emergency communication plan is and why you should make one for your family.

Why Make a Plan

Your family may not be together if a disaster strikes, so it is important to think about the following situations and plan just in case. Consider the following questions when making a plan:

- How will my family/household get emergency alerts and warnings?
- How will my family/household get to safe locations for relevant emergencies?
- How will my family/household get in touch if cell phone, internet, or landline doesn't work?
- How will I let loved ones know I am safe?
- How will family/household get to a meeting place after the emergency?

Download and Print a Plan

Here are a few easy steps to start your emergency communication plan:

Understand how to receive emergency alerts and warnings. Make sure all household members are able to get alerts about an emergency from local officials. Check with your local emergency management agency to see what is available in your area, and learn more about alerts by visiting: www.ready.gov/alerts. Examples of media for alerts include:

- Phone (work, cell, office)
- Email
- Social media
- Medical facilities, doctors, service providers, school

Decide on safe, familiar places where your family can go for protection or to reunite. Make sure these locations are accessible for household members with disabilities or access and functional needs. If you have pets or service animals, think about animal-friendly locations.

Examples of meeting places:

- **In your neighborhood:** A mailbox at the end of the driveway, or a neighbor's house.
- **Outside of your neighborhood:** library, community center, place of worship, or family friend's home.
- **Outside of your town or city:** home of a relative or family friend. Make sure everyone knows the address of the meeting place and discuss ways you would get there.
- **Discuss family/household plans for disasters that may affect your area and plan where to go.**
Plan together in advance so that everyone in the household understands where to go during a different type of disaster like a hurricane, tornado, or wildfire.
- **Collect information.** Create a paper copy of the contact information for your family.
- **Identify information and pick an emergency meeting place.**
- **Share information.** Make sure everyone carries a copy in his or her backpack, purse, or wallet. You should also post a copy in a central location in your home, such as your refrigerator or family bulletin board.
- **Practice your plan.** Have regular household meetings to review your emergency plans, communication plans and meeting place after a disaster, and then practice, just like you would a fire drill.

Ice, Snow and Extreme Cold

KEEP THE FOLLOWING ITEMS IN YOUR VEHICLE DURING THE WINTER MONTHS

- JUMPER CABLES
- WINDSHIELD SCRAPER
- FLASHLIGHT
- FIRST AID KIT
- SMALL SHOVEL
- SAND TO PUT UNDER TIRES FOR TRACTION
- BRIGHT CLOTH TO USE AS A DISTRESS FLAG



WINTERIZE YOUR VEHICLE BY MAKING SURE IT HAS THE FOLLOWING:

- STRONG BATTERY
- PLENTY OF ANTIFREEZE
- WINTERIZED WIPER FLUID
- EXTRA WIPER BLADES
- WORKING HEATER
- NO LEAKS OR CRIMPS IN EXHAUST PIPE
- SNOW TIRES and/or TIRE CHAINS
- KEEP AT LEAST A HALF TANK OF GAS
- WINTER-WEIGHT OIL (see vehicle owner's manual)

Winter storms are dangerous. Snow and ice storms can make roads impassable and will cause power outages at exactly the time when electricity (heat) is crucial for warmth.

Make sure you have the following items:

- **Rock salt to melt the ice from the walkways, driveways**
- **Snow shovel to clear walkways**
- **A way to stay warm if the power goes out, such as a generator, alternative heating fuel, or a fireplace with dry wood**

A winter storm **WATCH** is issued when it is believed a storm may occur in your area.

A winter storm **WARNING** is issued when a winter storm is occurring or will soon occur in your area.

Prepare yourself and your family to ensure their safety and the protection of your property well in advance of any possible activation; you may be required to report to your assignment immediately without being able to stop at home first. Here are a few things to keep in mind:

- Your family needs at least three days of non-refrigerated food and bottled water available.
- Have a medical kit available and make sure your family knows how to use it.
- Have fire extinguishers at home; make sure your family knows how to use them.
- Make your family aware of escape routes from the immediate area. Give them a map.
- Pre-designate a place for them to go: a friend's house or alternate agreed-upon meeting place.
- Have phone numbers in your wallet/purse for your family's alternate shelter(s).
- Have alternate means of communication should cell/landline phone systems be down.
- Consider registering with the Red Cross's [Safe and Well](#) service.
- Keep valuable documents in a safe place or take them with you.
- Have cash on hand for you and your family as ATMs will likely be down.

These are just a few ideas; there are many more. Study FEMA's [Ready](#) website for more. The above list was adapted from the Department of Homeland Security - Office of Emergency Communications - excellent reference guide [Auxiliary Communications Field Operations Guide](#) (AUXFOG).



When your cell phone won't work,
our radios will.
#HamRadioHasYourBack
arrrl.org



Every **THIRD Saturday of each month**, we have a monthly radio test of the Amateur Radio Stations located at each hospital.

These tests are at **10:30am**. The purposes for these tests are to check the radio's output and audio signal from the radio at each hospital and get a signal check from anyone located outside of the hospital.



West Hospital

The radio operators from the hospitals change monthly and are practicing their skills on how to handle net protocols and message handling. Operating frequency is **147.570**. Please show your support by checking in and give them a signal check.

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Hendricks County ARES



FOLLOW US : Twitter
hendrickscoares



Hendricks County
Amateur Radio Emergency Service

** FOR A COPY OF OUR E-PLAN AND OTHER INFORMATION **

VISIT US ON : www.hendricksares.org

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Hendricks County ARES WEEKLY NET
ON EVERY TUESDAY NIGHT
7:30pm on 147.015

Upcoming Events: Fall/Winter 2017

***Hoosier Hills/Bedford Hamfest...

October 7. Hours : 8a-3p.

Lawrence Co. Fairgrounds, 11265

Hwy 50 West, Mitchell, IN.

Tickets: \$5.

*** Ft. Wayne Hamfest November 18&19

Hours: 9a-4p 18th, 9a-2pm 19th.

Allen County War Coliseum & Expo

Center, 4000 Parnell Ave, Ft Wayne

IN.

Tickets: \$6 for both days, \$3 for Sun-

day.

NOTE: \$6 Parking fee.

October 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

November 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

2018 CLASS SCHEDULE INFORMATION

Jan 31-Mar 21. HCARS sponsored Ham Training Class.

This class will be on every Wednesday

night at the Senior Services Center:

1201 Sycamore Ln. Danville

TIME: 7-9pm.

TESTING will follow last class.

December 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

**LIST OF 2018 HCARES
WINTER TRAINING
CLASSES COMING SOON !!!**