



**Yolo County
ARES**

Amateur Radio and Hospitals

A Communications Safety Net



Yolo County ARES
www.yoloares.org



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Presentation Overview

- Introductions
- What is Amateur Radio?
- Amateur Radio Emergency Services (ARES)
- Why does Amateur Radio work When All Else fails?
- Amateur Radio and the Red Cross
- Hospitals and Amateur Radio
- Questions and Answers...



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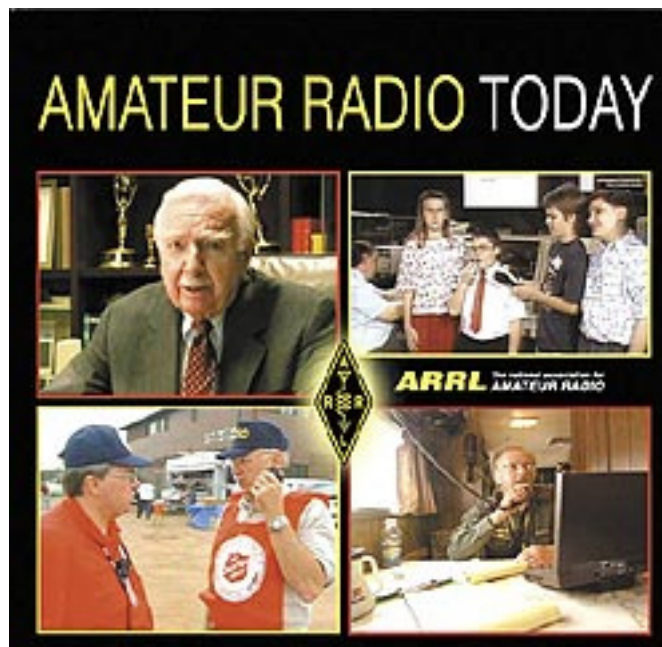
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What is Amateur Radio?

Amateur Radio Today DVD



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Amateur Radio Emergency Service

- The Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES) consists of more than 35,000 licensed amateurs
- ARES provides an organized pool of communication operators to provide reliable communications links for governmental agencies and/or non-profit organizations



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Yolo ARES communications capabilities

- **ARES has the capabilities to:**
 - quickly create a communications network
 - provide communications at:
 - local level
 - county or state wide
 - world wide if necessary
- **Each ARES member is able to operate independently and effectively from most locations.**



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Yolo ARES – Red Cross & City of Davis

- **Yolo ARES has provided Red Cross with communication links:**
 - between shelters and chapter houses
 - support for damage assessment
 - supply handling and logistics
 - health and welfare messages

- **Yolo ARES with the City of Davis Fire Department and CERT**
 - Installed antennas, coax and power supplies installed at every fire station and the EOC



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When All Else Fails...

ARES made a difference during the recent hurricanes.

- Immediately at the onset of Hurricane Katrina, over 1,000 FCC-licensed Amateur Radio operators provided continuous communications for state, local and federal emergency workers in and around the affected areas in Louisiana, Mississippi, and Alabama.



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Emergency Communications

“In an emergency, **communications is essential** and time is the greatest value”

“The ability to gather information is the difference between life and death.”

Kentucky Governor Ernie Fletcher



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Amateur Radio works...

Hams were heros during Oregon flooding

"I'm going to tell you that the heroes from the beginning of this, were the ham radio operators. These people just came in and actually provided a tremendous communication link to us."



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Amateur Radio works...

- Amateur Radio worked during the 2008 Southern California Fires



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Yolo County power outage 2008

- Yolo County ARES and Amateur radio provided needed communication links:
 - between shelters and chapter house
 - supply handling and logistics
 - health and welfare messages



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When all Else Fails...

Hospital Communications failure is serious



Scenarios where backup communications can be vital:

- Internal or external telephone failure
- Mass casualty incident, causing overload of telephone system
- Area-wide disaster (e.g. earthquake, flood) resulting in widespread phone outage



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When all Else Fails...

Scenarios where backup communications can be vital:

- Evacuation of hospital buildings (e.g. bomb threat, gas leak)
- Transferring large numbers of patients to new buildings
- Back-up for countywide Hospital Emergency Administration during failure



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Ham Radio and Hospitals

Ham radio can provide a Communications Safety Net for hospitals

When needed, ham radio can provide communications between:

- Hospitals and EOC
- Hospitals and Incident Command Centers
- Hospitals and Shelters
- Hospitals and healthcare agencies
- Hospital to Hospital communications



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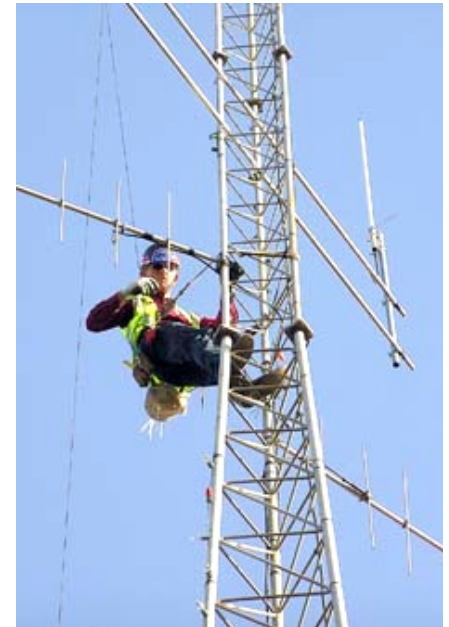
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Yolo ARES Can Help You get Started

- Help conduct a *Needs* assessment and a plan to meet your needs and goals
- Radio communication training
- Assist with Amateur Radio Equipment selection and installation
- Emergency exercise support



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Road Map to Success

- ✓ **Conduct a Needs assessment and design a plan to meet your needs & goals**
- ✓ **Create Radio communication teams
Get licensing and training**
- ✓ **Plan selection and installation of
Amateur Radio Equipment**
- ✓ **Create Liaisons with Local Amateur
Radio Groups (ARES, YARS)**
- ✓ **Train, Train, and then *Train* some more**



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Amateur Radio during an Emergency

■ Questions and Answers...



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