

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:

*Don Lewis,
Alexandria Radio Club, Inc.
P.O. Box 30721
Alexandria, VA 22310
Email: don.ki4d@gmail.com*

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

NEWS SUMMARY: The Alexandria Radio Club is hosting its annual amateur radio “Field day” on June 25-26, 2022. Members of the club will demonstrate public service emergency communications by working around the clock that weekend to set up field radio communication stations and get on the air. They will participate with thousands of other amateur radio operators in the US and Canada in conjunction with the American Radio Relay League’s Field Day 2022. The American Radio Relay League is the national umbrella organization for amateur radio interests and activities in the United States.

According to Rick Bunn, club Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES) Coordinator, Field Day is the annual demonstration of club emergency communications capabilities to support the City of Alexandria.

“Field Day is a way for amateur radio operators (hams) to get outdoors to operate and have fun under simulated difficult conditions,” Rick says. “But it’s also a chance to fine-tune emergency communication skills. We use generators and battery power, and we set up antennas in the field. The idea is to put together self-sufficient, working stations quickly and begin establishing communications.”

Trained amateur radio operators have been effective in establishing emergency communications during floods, fires, earthquakes and other major disasters, including the events of September 11th. Many of these amateur radio operators are members of ARES. In this capacity, they have voluntarily worked by request for a variety of public organizations providing disaster services for the City of Alexandria; and others, including the Federal Emergency Management Agency, the American Red Cross, the Salvation Army, State and Local Emergency Management Agencies, and the National Weather Service SKYWARN Program.

SUMMARY: Alexandria Radio Club operators (hams) will establish radio contact along with thousands of other hams throughout North America in the nation’s largest annual ham radio on-air event, conducted each year.

WHO: Everyone is invited: Everyone! Young and old, families, technology clubs, and scouting groups are encouraged to visit the Alexandria Radio Club Field Day 2022 event.

WHAT: Club members will set up and operate field radio station equipment to contact other hams throughout the US and Canada over 24 hours. Visitors are invited to operate radios with Club Members.

WHERE: The Alexandria Radio Club will conduct Field Day 2022 at Armistead Booth Park, 520 Cameron Station Blvd, Alexandria, VA 22304.

WHEN: June 25th-26th. Equipment setup begins at Armistead Booth Park on Saturday morning, June 25 at 10:00 a.m. Radio operations will commence at 2:00 p.m. and continue until 2:00 p.m. on Sunday, June 26.

WHY FIELD DAY: To be prepared for emergencies, participation in the American Radio Relay League’s Field Day allow amateur Radio operators to practice emergency communication skills under primitive conditions, using generator and battery-powered equipment and portable antennas. Special awards are given for “alternative” power sources such as solar, wind and methane. Field Day is a competition as well as a “trial run” for emergency communication skills used during disaster situations. Photo opportunities, interviews, activities of local participants is important in this national amateur radio event. See all amateur radio communication modes in action, including voice, morse code, computer-to-computer radio, teletype, and satellite.

CONTACT: Don Lewis at don.ki4d@gmail.com, or check out the Alexandria Radio Club home page at www.w4hfh.org; or <https://www.facebook.com/w4hfh>, or www.arrl.org/field-day.