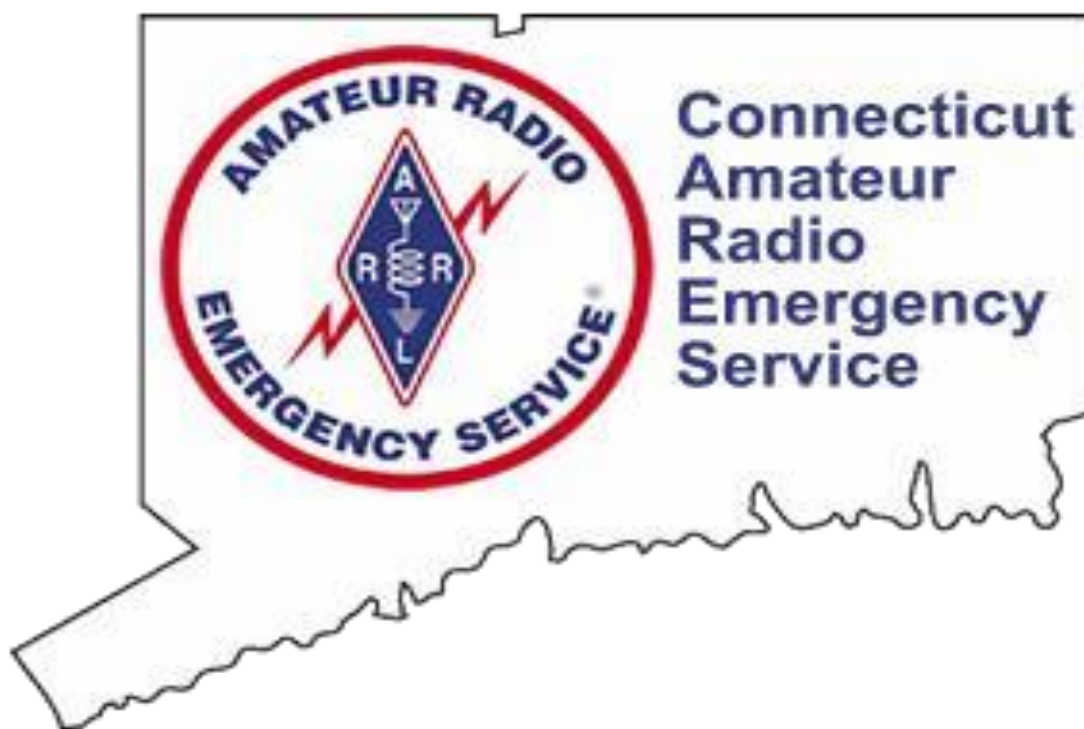


Amateur Radio Emergency Service

Emergency Operations Plan

Connecticut Region 3



June 2022

**ARES Confidential
Not For Distribution Beyond ARES Membership**

Introduction

Region 3 ARES is composed of amateur radio operators residing within the region who have volunteered, by registering with CT ARES, to participate in emergency communications when such needs arise. The Region 3 ARES leadership team is composed of amateur radio operators who have been appointed by Connecticut Section leadership to facilitate amateur radio emergency communications within the region. One of the roles of the Region 3 ARES leadership team is to prepare plans detailing the organization, deployment, and operation of radio amateurs supporting emergency communications within the region. The Region 3 ARES Emergency Operations Plan (EOP) and the Communications Plan (ICS Form 205) are those documents.

Purpose

This Emergency Operations Plan (EOP) outlines the policies and procedures for amateur radio emergency communications in Region 3. The purpose and scope of the EOP is as follows:

- To outline the Region 3 ARES organization.
- To describe the process for notifying Region 3 ARES members.
- To detail processes and procedures for mobilization and deployment.
- To specify the communication channels and functions for emergency communications.
- To detail processes and procedures for demobilization.
- To provide a mechanism for periodic plan review and updating.

Served Agencies

A served agency is a public or private emergency service organization that is supported by ARES communications efforts. The primary served agency for Region 3 is the Red Cross. Other served agencies within Region 3 include Emergency Management operations in local communities and Connecticut DEMHS Region 3.

With respect to the Red Cross, the likely mission for amateur radio operators would be to establish communications capabilities at shelters as they are opened in the region. The Red Cross North Central CT Territory aligns with ARES Region 3. The North Central CT office is located at the CT/RI Region Red Cross Headquarters in Farmington, CT. Amateur Radio Station WA1ARC is located at that location.

The Red Cross has three pre-designated shelters in Region 3. These are located at East Hartford High School, Vernon Center Middle School, and Plainville High School. The Red Cross may also provide assistance at other regional or local shelters.

With respect to local and state Emergency Management, the likely mission would be to provide amateur radio communications at an Emergency Operations Center (EOC) or from field positions (such as local shelters) to support communications with EOCs. ARES is a component of the DEMHS Region 3 Communications Emergency Support Function (ESF 2) Plan.

Region 3 ARES will coordinate with amateur radio operations that are part of local CERT Teams regarding local communication needs.

CT ARES also serves the National Weather Service's (NWS) SKYWARN program by reporting specific weather data during storm events. Most of Region 3 is a part of the Hartford/Tolland County SKYWARN region. This region reports to the NWS office in Boston/Norton, MA. Five towns in the southern part of Region 3 are in Middlesex County and thus are part of the Middlesex/New Haven County SKYWARN region. This region reports to the Upton, NY NWS office

Region 3 ARES Organization

Region 3 is one of five ARES regions in the Connecticut Section.

Region 3 ARES is composed of 41 towns in the greater Hartford area. Region 3 covers towns in Hartford, Tolland, and Middlesex counties. It aligns with Connecticut DEMHS Region 3. The following towns are included:

Andover (Tolland)	Ellington (Tolland)	Rocky Hill (Hartford)
Avon (Hartford)	Enfield (Hartford)	Simsbury (Hartford)
Berlin (Hartford)	Farmington (Hartford)	Somers (Tolland)
Bloomfield (Hartford)	Glastonbury (Hartford)	Southington (Hartford)
Bolton (Tolland)	Granby (Hartford)	South Windsor (Hartford)
Bristol (Hartford)	Hartford (Hartford)	Stafford (Tolland)
Burlington (Hartford)	Hebron (Tolland)	Suffield (Hartford)
Canton (Hartford)	Manchester (Hartford)	Tolland (Tolland)
Cromwell (Middlesex)	Marlborough (Hartford)	Vernon (Tolland)
East Granby (Hartford)	Middletown (Middlesex)	West Hartford (Hartford)
East Haddam (Middlesex)	New Britain (Hartford)	Wethersfield (Hartford)
East Hampton (Middlesex)	Newington (Hartford)	Windsor (Hartford)
East Hartford (Hartford)	Plainville (Hartford)	Windsor Locks (Hartford)
East Windsor (Hartford)	Portland (Middlesex)	

The District Emergency Coordinator (DEC) and Assistant District Emergency Coordinators (ADECs) are responsible for ARES activities in Region 3. A number of the towns in the region are assigned an Emergency Coordinator (EC). An EC may also be assigned to a functional area such as digital communications or as a liaison to a served agency like the Red Cross. The EC is responsible for recruiting and training amateur radio operators for emergency communications in their assigned area. The ECs coordinate the assignment of amateur radio operators for emergency communication as directed by the DEC and ADEC.

In addition to the five ARES regions, there is a DEC appointed for SKYWARN activities in Connecticut. Several ECs have been appointed as SKYWARN coordinators and assigned one or more of the eight Counties in the State. They report to the SKYWARN DEC. The Hartford/Tolland County SKYWARN EC aligns with most of ARES Region 3 towns. The Middlesex/New Haven County SKYWARN EC directs related activities in the five Region 3 towns located in Middlesex County.

Region 3 leadership contact information and maps of the region are below.

ARES Members

Amateur radio operators in Region 3 who are assigned emergency communications duties will come from those who are registered as CT ARES members and reside in Region 3 towns. Registration can be accomplished on-line by using the "membership" tab at ctares.org.

Region 3 maintains a membership roster and email list. Region 3 members are encouraged to keep their contact information current by updating both the CT ARES website and Region 3 Leadership.

Region 3 members are also encouraged to check-in to the weekly Region 3 ARES net. Information and announcements about Region 3 activities will be communicated through that net. The net is held on Monday evenings at 2000 hours local on the KB1AEV linked repeater system.

It is expected that ARES members will have completed the requisite FEMA training programs commonly referred to as the "Core Four".

It is expected that Region 3 ARES members will have radio (HT, portable, and/or mobile) and ancillary equipment capable of communicating on frequencies listed in the Region 3 Communications Plan (ICS-205). The frequencies should be preprogrammed into members' radios. During emergencies members may be asked to operate on any of these frequencies.

CT Region 3 ARES Leadership Contacts

Assignment	Call Sign	Name	Phone			Email
			Home	Cell	Work	
DEC	K1XFC	Phil Crombie, Jr.	860-644-0618	860-338-6332	860-687-7449	crombiejr@snet.net
ADEC	AB1LZ	Bill Storey		860-480-9020		wtstorey@aol.com
EC East Haddam East Hampton Glastonbury Hebron Marlborough Middletown Portland	K1CMM	Don Gouin	860-342-1744	860-918-1841		valueelectronics@snet.net
EC Canton	KC1GLN	Kevin Bradley	860-693-1859	860-836-4558		Bradley_kevinp@msn.com

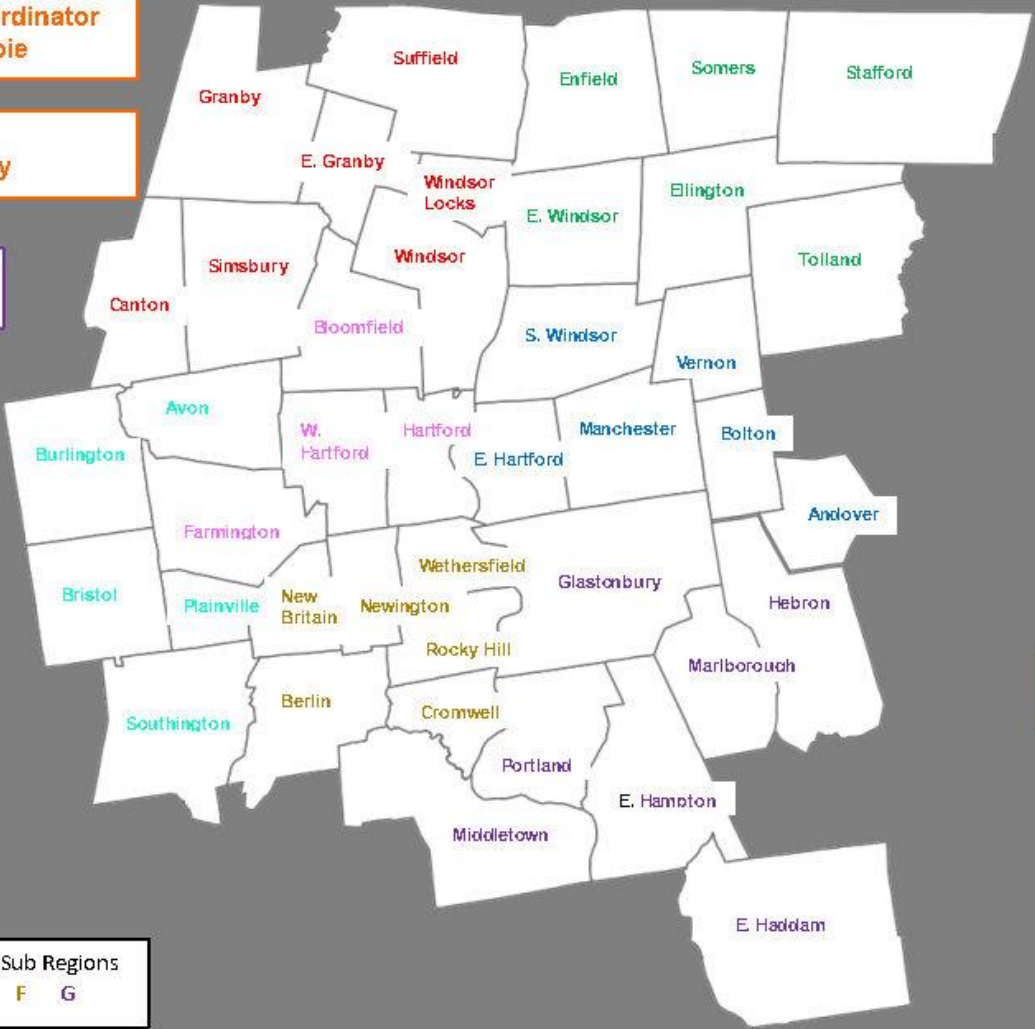
CT ARES Region Map

ARES Region 3 Organization & Leadership

District Emergency Coordinator
K1XFC Phil Crombie

Assistant DEC
AB1LZ Bill Storey

EC Canton
KC1GLN Kevin Bradley



EC South East
K1CMM Don Guin

41 Towns Arranged in 7 Sub Regions
A B C D E F G

Revised 6-1-2022

Notification

Activation Levels

CT ARES has established four activation levels as follows:

- Level 0 - INACTIVE – Normal Condition. No known event likely to occur.
- Level 1 - ALERT – An event is possible. Begin preparations.
- Level 2 - STANDBY – High likelihood of deployment. Make final preparations.
- Level 3 - DEPLOY – A served agency has asked for help.

These activation levels are indicated on the State and Region 3 ARES websites (links below).

<http://www.ctares.org>

<https://www.ctares-region3.org>

Notification

When you hear of an emergency or pending severe weather, check the state ARES web site (ctares.org) for a change in the activation level. It is normally set to Level 0 - INACTIVE.

If the activation level has changed to Level 1 - ALERT or Level 2 - STANDBY, monitor the following:

- The state ARES Announce and Alert groups - http://www.ctares.org/groups_io.html
- The **CT ARES STATEWIDE** talk group on DMR - if so equipped
- The Region 3 Primary frequency as listed in the Communications Plan (ICS 205)
- Your email - if you are registered in the state ARES member database
- Your phone - if you are registered in the state ARES member database

Also, make sure you and your equipment are ready for service. Your family and residence should be prepared for your possible departure. Go-Boxes and portable antennas should be prepared. Batteries should be fully charged. Log forms, NTS Radiogram forms, paper, pens, and pencils should be readied. Personal items should be packed.

If you have SKYWARN training and severe weather is forecast, monitor the Hartford/Tolland or Middlesex/New Haven County SKYWARN frequency (see ICS-205) for net activations.

Resource Net

A resource net(s) is established by Region 3 ARES leadership when it is determined that amateur radio emergency communications resources will be needed for an event. The purpose of the Resource Net is to:

- Register amateur radio operators for the event.
- Advise the Tactical Net of the number of available amateur radio operators.
- Coordinate deployment requests from the Tactical Net.
- Give/confirm deployment assignments for amateur radio operators.
- Confirm amateur radio operator arrival at deployment assignment.
- Hand-off the amateur radio operator to the Tactical Net frequency to check-in with the Tactical Net.

- Receive amateur radio operator check-ins when released from the Tactical Net.
- Establish amateur radio operator status for: Reassignment, Stand-by, or Demobilization.
- Demobilize and account for all registered participants at event “Stand Down”.

A Resource Net may be activated on your town’s local ARES frequency or on a regional repeater as listed in the Region 3 ICS 205. Once activated, listen to those nets for further information and instructions.

When checking in to a Resource Net, LISTEN CAREFULLY! Only respond if you are in a category that is being requested. The purpose of these nets is to develop list(s) of amateur radio operators available for and capable of assignment and/or deployment. The request may be for radio operators with specific equipment, specific capabilities or skills, or the ability to deploy to specific locations.

ARES members will typically check-in to the Resource Net before being deployed.

Deployment

ARES MEMBERS DO NOT SELF-DEPLOY

Region 3 ARES leadership officials make assignments for deployment to served agencies. If your town or a state agency, the Red Cross, Salvation Army, or a public health facility needs amateur radio operators, they will contact state or region level ARES officials, who will pass on the requests to ECs for assignment.

If you respond to an agency request through another channel as a result of a prior commitment, such as being a CERT team member, please let your ARES EC know that you will be unavailable for ARES deployment during that event.

Deployment may involve going to a location to conduct emergency communications operations. Deployment may also involve being assigned to operate from your home station.

When operating from your home station you may be assigned to do the following:

- Act as Net Control for a local ARES net
- Act as Net Control for a Region 3 net
- Act as liaison between your local net and another net

Deployment away from your home station may be to locations that have no established amateur radio communications equipment. ARES members who have “go-boxes” will be required at these locations. ARES members not so equipped may also be needed for support.

Deployment away from your home station may last several days. Be prepared by bringing any needed medications and personal care items with you. Operational periods can last as long as twelve hours before significant rest.

Tactical Net

The Tactical Net is the primary net for ARES emergency communications. It is used to coordinate activities within Region 3. This net is always in progress during an activation or operation.

The Region 3 Tactical Net operates on the frequency(s) listed in the Region 3 ICS 205 (Comms Plan).

Tactical traffic is passed on this net as needed.

Formal written traffic may also be passed if the net is not too busy. If the net has a large volume of traffic to pass, it should be passed on a separate simplex or repeater frequency.

A Roll Call of all stations in the net should be taken every hour to insure that all stations are still available.

Stations that wish to or need to leave the net should inform the NCS, if at all possible.

Demobilization

Notification for demobilization comes via the Tactical Net. Once a location or individual is given the O.K. to demobilize, equipment should be picked up and the operating area or location should be returned to the condition it was in upon arrival. All logs, notes, radiograms etc. should be saved for collection and/or use in post event review.

Before leaving an assignment, radio operators should check back in on the appropriate Resource Net. Operators may be dismissed from the event or possibly given another assignment.

Post Operations

Event Review

Within a short time after an event has concluded, an event review will be scheduled. This is an opportunity, while still fresh, to critique the operations. The review will identify those things that went well. It will also identify areas for enhancement.

Plans Review

Both this Emergency Operations Plan (EOP) and the Communications Plan (ICS 205) will be reviewed on an annual basis. Versions will be identified by month and year. A revision history page is included in both plans to identify substantive changes.

