

Pennsylvania ARES / Red Cross
April 2025 SET

Welcome & Agenda

- Who is Here? PA ARES ECs DECs SECs SMs and ARC Emcomm
- Thanks
 - GPA and SEPA Emcomm leads
 - EPA and WPA SMs and ARES leaders
- Agenda
 - Pennsylvania Statistics
 - Exercise Goals
 - Exercise Activities
 - Exercise Schedule

Pennsylvania Statistics

- State Population State: 13,000,000
- ARES Sections
 - EPA 8,400,000 (33 counties, 6 districts, 500 mbrs)
 - WPA 4,600,000 (34 counties, 4 districts, 650 mbrs)
- Red Cross Regions
 - SEPA 4,000,000 (5 counties)
 - GPA 9,000,000 (61 counties)
- 10 Red Cross Emcomm Stations
- RCES covers all PA

Pennsylvania Statistics

- Six counties < 20,000
- 31 counties > 100,000
- Philadelphia (SEPA) 4,000,000
- Pittsburgh Area 2,400,000
- Rural 3,400,000
- Nuclear Sites
 - Beaver Valley (Beaver co)
 - Peach Bottom (York co)
 - Susquehanna (Luzerne co)
 - Limerick (Montgomery co)
 - Three Mile Island (Dauphin co)

Diverse environment, large and small communities, urban and rural settings. Isolated terrain common.

Emcomm flexibility required!

Red Cross Details

- American Red Cross - 275,000 volunteers
 - Paid staff less than 10%
- Over 90% of donations go to clients and client services
- Shelter Emcomm Needs
 - Daily Shelter Report
 - Emergency Services (fire, police, ambulance)
 - Chapter / Region Messages

Exercise Goals and Activities

Goals

- Practice Alert
- RCES Operations
- RCES Familiarity
- ARC Shelter Report (FROST)
- Deployment
- ARC/ARES Team Building

Activities

- Unit Alert (optional)
- RCES Activation/Operation
- RCES Check-in
- ARC Shelter Report (FROST)

Planned Activities

Unit Alert

- Unit Alert
 - Optional, good practice
 - If you don't have a procedure a template can be provided
- Deploy vrs Base
 - Both have value. Deploy to serve clients, Base to provide relay, net control/logging, situational awareness

Planned Activities

RCES Check-In

- RCES Check-In
 - Participants check-in with local RCES(s)
 - Call, Name, Location (COUNTY!), Base or Deployed, ARC/ARES/Other affiliation
 - RCES logs check-ins
 - Participation by county will be reported

Planned Activities

ARC Daily Shelter Report (FROST)

- Field Remote Operations Support Team (FROST)
 - Shelter critical reporting data
 - Daily report (11 PM)
 - Excel spreadsheet - via Winlink as CSV

Exercise Instructions

- Share this slide deck with all interested parties.
- 22 Mar - two weeks before SET. An invitation email will go out to all PA ARC Emcomm, EPA and WPA ECs and DECAs. Review it carefully and comment, its our last chance to make changes. Do not distribute.
- 29 Mar - one week before SET. The final invitation will go out. It will include all items needed to participate in the SET. Forward it to your members and any others who may be interested. The email will include:
 - Exercise Instruction - Detailed participant instructions.
 - Station List - Red Cross Emcomm station operating channels
 - ICS-214 - Log for for use by RCES Stations
 - RCES Participant Log - For use by RCES to log check-ins
 - Frost Report - Spreadsheet report with exercise information
- Invite clubs and others to participate - All PA hams welcome

Exercise Schedule

- 4 March, exercise team meeting. PA ARES and ARC Emcomm review exercise draft. Slide deck distributed. Please share with all interested parties.
- 22 March, invitation to ARC and ARES, review and comment on exercise plan
- 29 March, final version of exercise instructions to ARC and ARES for distribution to members and all other potentially interested participants
- 5 April 2025, SET, 1000 to 1200 Local

Red Cross Emcomm Stations (RCES)

Over 20 counties participating - Example below

Red Cross Chapter LOCATION	Approximate County Coverage	REPEATER FOR NET (Call sign, Output freq, offset, PL tone)	Call and Tactical Cal (if any)?
Allentown	Berks		
Allentown	Lehigh	W3OK 146.70 – pl 151.4	KC3WQK remote 1
Allentown	Northampton	W3OI 146.94 – pl 71.9	KC3WQK remote 2
Erie	Erie	KC3KLG 146.64 – pl 186.2	KC3TFM
Erie	Erie	W3GV 146.82 – pl 186.2	
Erie	Erie	WA3UC 146.70 – pl 186.2	
Philadelphia	SEPA	W3QV 147.030 + pl 91.5	Philadelphia Co ARES
Philadelphia	SEPA - Bucks	W3QV 147.030 + pl 88.5	
Philadelphia	SEPA - Delco	W3QV 147.030 + pl 100	
Philadelphia	SEPA - Phil	WM3PEN 146.685 - pl 146.2	SEPA Red Cross Philadelphia Chapter
Philadelphia	Phil West	WB3JOE 147.060 + pl 131.8	SEPA Red Cross Delaware Chapter

This is an example, for illustration only. A detailed list including all participating stations will be included in the Exercise Instruction sent to participants.