

RUNNING FURY

THE A.R.R.L. WESTERN PENNSYLVANIA SECTION SPRING SIMULATED EMERGENCY TEST

DATE: 6 APRIL, 2019

RUN TIME: 0930-1200 HRS LOCAL TIME

LOCATION: ALL COUNTIES IN WESTERN PENNSYLVANIA SECTION

THE SPRING 2019 SIMULATED EMERGENCY TEST WILL BE A FLOOD AND ICE WATCH EXERCISE. ALL COUNTIES WITHIN THE SECTION HAVE WATERWAYS (RIVERS, TRIBUTARIES AND STREAMS) THAT CAN BE PRONE TO FLOODING FROM ICE JAMS, SNOW AND ICE MELT, SEVERE WEATHER, HEAVY STORMS, ETC.

THE AFOREMENTIONED WATERWAYS CAN HAVE SUBSTANTIAL IMPACT WHEN FLOODING OCCURS CAUSING SERIOUS THREATS TO INFRASTRUCTURE, PERSONAL SAFETY AND PROPERTY. HAVING KNOWLEDGE OF THESE HIGH WATER PRONE AREAS CAN BE INVALUABLE FOR EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS & ACTION PLANS SHOULD THE NEED ARISE.

ALL ARES UNITS WITHIN THE WESTERN PENNSYLVANIA SECTION ARE REQUESTED TO PARTICIPATE IN THE EXERCISE. SHOULD THERE BE ANY SCHEDULE CONFLICTS THAT WOULD INTERFERE WITH FULL GROUP PARTICIPATION, IT IS REQUESTED THAT SOME TYPE OF PARTICIPATION BE MADE BY AVAILABLE OPERATORS.

THE FOLLOWING ACTIVITIES WILL BE PART OF THE EXERCISE:

- 1- WATERWAYS OBSERVATION AND REPORTING BE MADE BY FIELD OPERATOR TEAMS
- 2- THREE OR FOUR EMERGENCY SHELTER VISITS BE MADE BY FIELD OPERATORS
- 3- NWS PITTSBURGH WX3PIT WILL BE CONDUCTING SKYWARN OPERATIONS
- 4- SKYVIEW RADIO SOCIETY K3MJW WILL BE THE SECTION HF STATION WITH TWO-WAY RADIOGRAM TRAFFIC.

ACTIVITY 1---FIELD TEAMS LOCATE WATERWAYS KNOWN TO BE FLOOD PRONE... OBSERVE AND REPORT WATERWAY CONDITIONS BY SIMULATED RADIO TRAFFIC TO THEIR INDIVIDUAL NET CONTROL STATIONS VIA UHF/VHF SIMPLEX OR REPEATER. FIELD OPERATORS ARE ENCOURAGED TO USE SIMPLEX COMMUNICATIONS BETWEEN TEAMS.

ACTIVITY 2---FIELD TEAMS WILL VISIT THREE OR FOUR EMERGENCY SHELTERS THAT WOULD BE OPERABLE DURING A HIGH WATER SCENARIO. FIELD TEAMS REPORT SIMULATED TRAFFIC TO THEIR NET CONTROL STATION WITH ANY SHELTER REQUESTS, ETC. SUCH TRAFFIC WILL BE RELAYED TO K3MJW VIA RADIOGRAM AND A REPLY SERVICED BACK TO FIELD TEAMS AT SHELTERS BEFORE MOVING ON TO THEIR NEXT LOCATION.

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ACTIVITY 3---NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE WX3PIT WILL CONDUCT SKYWARN NET OPERATIONS DURING THE EXERCISE. WX3PIT WILL CONTACT ALL COUNTIES SEVERAL TIMES DURING THE EXERCISE FOR WEATHER RELATED REPORTS. IT IS PREFERRED THAT WEATHER REPORTS TO WX3PIT BE REAL TIME AS NOT TO CONFUSE THE EXERCISE.

ACTIVITY 4---SKYVIEW RADIO SOCIETY K3MJW WILL BE THE SECTION HF STATION ACCEPTING AND RELAYING HF RADIOGRAM TRAFFIC DURING THE EXERCISE. ALL RADIOGRAM TRAFFIC WILL BE TWO-WAY TO HELP PARTICIPATING COUNTIES GET FAMILIAR WITH HANDLING MESSAGE TRAFFIC. REMEMBER- EMERGENCY SUPPORT COMMUNICATIONS RELY UPON OUR BEING PROFICIENT IN ACCURATELY GETTING THE MESSAGE THROUGH IN TIME OF NEED.

FIELD OPERATOR SAFETY---

- THE SAFETY OF FIELD OPERATORS IS OF UTMOST IMPORTANCE DURING THE EXERCISE. BE OBSERVANT OF YOUR SURROUNDINGS WHETHER ALONG ROADWAYS, WATERWAYS, SHELTERS, ETC.
- OBSERVE AND REPORT WATERWAYS FROM A SAFE DISTANCE. THERE IS NO NEED TO BE AT THE WATER'S EDGE.
- USE COMMON SENSE SAFETY WHEN ALONG ANY ROADWAYS.
- ALL FIELD OPERATORS SHOULD WEAR SAFETY VESTS AND COUNTY ID (IF SUPPLIED)

RADIO OPERATIONS NOTES:

- FIELD TEAMS USE VHF/UHF SIMPLEX OR REPEATERS...EXPERIMENT WITH SIMPLEX BETWEEN FIELD TEAMS.
- K3MJW WILL UTILIZE 75M 3.983 KHZ FOR RADIOGRAM TRAFFIC...FOLLOW THE DIRECTION OF K3MJW OPERATOR FOR INBOUND OR OUTBOUND TRAFFIC TO AVOID CONFUSION.
- WX3PIT WILL UTILIZE 2M REPEATERS PLUS 75M 3.975 KHZ +/- SEVERAL Hz FOR DISTANT COMMUNICATIONS.
- NEW THIS SPRING WILL BE THE USE OF DMR DURING THE EXERCISE...THE WESTERN PENNSYLVANIA TALKGROUP IS 31422. GIVE IT A TRY, DMR IS COMING ON STRONG. SEE ATTACHED ICS-205 FOR FREQUENCY INFORMATION

THIS SPRING EXERCISE IS DESIGNED TO:

A- EXPAND FIELD OPERATING CAPABILITIES IN SIMPLEX COMMUNICATIONS

B- BECOME BETTER FAMILIARIZED IN RADIOGRAM TRAFFIC HANDLING

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C- BETTER DEVELOP PREPAREDNESS PLANS FOR SEVERE WEATHER OCCURRENCES WHEN RIVERS, TRIBUTARIES AND STREAMS OVERFLOW THEIR BANKS DUE TO HEAVY RAINS, WINTER ICE AND THAW, ETC.

D- PREPARE TO WORK WITH SERVED AGENCIES SUCH AS EMERGENCY SHELTER OPERATORS. COUNTY PUBLIC SAFETY AND THE US ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS.

E- EXPLORE THE USE OF DMR OPERATING ON THE W.P.A. 31422 TALKGROUP

AN AFTER ACTION REPORT SUBMITTED BY EMERGENCY COORDINATORS IS REQUESTED BY 20 APRIL...THIS IS DIFFERENT THAN A PUBLIC SERVICE REPORT...LET'S SEE HOW WE DID, WHAT WORKED WELL, WHAT NEEDS IMPROVEMENT, ETC. WE'RE ALL ON THE SAME TEAM AND CAN LEARN FROM EACH OTHER. PLEASE FEEL FREE TO CONTACT ME WITH ANY QUESTIONS.

THANK YOU FOR PARTICIPATING IN THE EXERCISE!
73 AND PRESS ON.

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