

2017 Maryland – DC Section
Simulated Emergency Test



Maryland - District of Columbia

ARES® Simulated Emergency Test
Exercise Plan

October 02, 2017



Jim Montgomery
WB3KAS
ARRL Section Emergency Coordinator
Maryland - DC Section
wb3kas@arrl.org

Preface

The Maryland - DC Section SET Sequel continues. The 2013 and 2014 SETs were continuations of each other; “Hurricane Chessie” graced us in 2013, and the delivery of requested ham gear in 2014 in support of a tornado from that hurricane. 2015 SET is the survey of “swollen rivers and streams” as the result of the hurricane’s aftermath, and 2016 was a study of NVIS, Near Vertical Incident Skywave propagation. This year’s 2017 SET, will be a full week event, October 1 through October 7, in response to Worcester County, MD requesting after-storm emergency communications support.

Corrections to Draft Rev 1.0

Page	Paragraph	Change	To
5	Bottom of page	. . .will be on 14 <u>6</u> .55.	. . .will be on 14 <u>5</u> .55.
6	11.0; Table 2	Winmor station <i>K3RYR</i>	Winmor station <i>WA3YOO</i>
13	Figure 6	Winmor Relay Call <i>K3RYR</i>	Winmor Relay Call <i>WA3YOO</i>
15	Table 5	<i>Somm</i> erset	<i>Som</i> erset

**Maryland - DC Section
2017 Simulated Emergency Test Exercise Plan (SETEP)**

1.0 TEST EXERCISE PLAN IDENTIFIER 2017 MDC–SETEP

2.0 REFERENCES

QST September 2017

3.0 INTRODUCTION

This is the master plan for the 2017 ARRL Simulated Emergency Test (SET) Exercise for the Maryland–DC (MDC) Section. It will address all aspects of the Exercise within the confines of the MDC Section.

4.0 SET Date and Time

The actual SET will commence at 0900L on Saturday October 7, 2017 and will end at approximately 1500L on the same day. However, there is a related pre-SET hospital drill held October 5.

5.0 Purpose

This simulated emergency test exercise plan is based on the premise that preparations and periodic emergency drills enhances the ability of emergency communicator’s skills to perform in actual emergencies and, as such, improves and promotes problem solving.

6.0 Objectives

- 6.1 Demonstrate the response to pre-storm request in preparation for the impending **Hurricane Elmer’s** arrival later in the week.
- 6.2 Demonstrate the capability to track volunteer radio operators deployed to the affected areas via APRS.
- 6.3 Demonstrate the ability to locate a separated child from his parents in a storm shelter using Fox Hunting techniques.
- 6.4 Demonstrate the ability to send the Strategic National Stockpile (SNS) Form from the local hospital up the chain of command to its final recipient.
- 6.5 Demonstrate the ability to respond to requests from the Maryland Emergency Management (MEMA) and provide status of conditions on the ground as a result of the storm.

ARRL Simulated Emergency Test Exercise Plan – 2017

Maryland – DC Section

7.0 Participants

Any and all ARES/RACES Groups, ACS Groups, MARS and Amateur Radio Clubs in the Section are most welcome to join in and participate in the State wide exercise.

8.0 Scenario

Hurricane Elmer has been doing ‘donuts’ in the Atlantic just North of Bermuda. MDC Section Storm Preparation Announcements (SPAs) have been issued to the Section advising ARES of suggested actions. Following the destruction of **Hurricane Elmer’s** near or direct hit, on Ocean City, MD, the city is without power, cell and land line phone service and no Internet connectivity. Eastern Shore roads are becoming impassable with downed trees and power lines. Rivers are beginning to swell. The local hospital is running low on medical and pharmaceutical supplies and need to restock. Sheltered families are isolated from their home loved ones and an ADD child separated from his vacationing Pueblo, CO family is lost in the aftermath. MEMA has asked the Amateur Radio community to assess and report status awareness back to the state emergency planners. Specific MEMA information requested are, but not necessarily limited to road closures, hospital services, bed counts and pharmaceutical resupply status.

9.0 Plan of Action and Time Line

October 1: MDC SEC announces Section SPAs to all Section Amateur Radio residents and especially to all volunteers deploying in the SET.

- Download and install the latest software version of Winlink Express prior to deployment. **DO NOT INSTALL ANY OF THE BETA VERSIONS.**
- Delete, remove or store elsewhere all messages in the Express Inbox, Outbox and Saved folders prior to deployment.
- Set up and test all radio equipment to include making on-the-air contacts prior to deployment. If it works, you are good to go.

October 3: Maryland Dept. of Health is requiring all health facilities in MD with Amateur Radio systems to have them tested and functionally operational prior to the storm’s arrival. Radio operators will send and receive messages among themselves and to selected government recipients. ASM Health Care EmComm Program, KA3AHI, sends out the above request for health facility operators planning on supporting the request. This will assist planners in the formation of proper exercise injects.

ARRL Simulated Emergency Test Exercise Plan – 2017

Maryland – DC Section

October 5: Quarterly MDC Section Hospital Drill.

- 1930, PRGE ARES runs the local training Net on 145.23MHz (-) pl 110.9. All who can access the repeater are encouraged to check in.
- 2000, all stations in health care facilities move off the repeater to the Central Maryland Repeater Group (CMRG) 440 Linking System Repeater. See Table 1.
- Exercise begins with KA3AHI as the Drill Incident Commander

Central Maryland Repeater Group Repeater System All 440 Repeaters are Linked Together			
QTH	Frequency (MHz)	Tone	Repeater Call Sign
Laurel	444.7000 +	167.9Hz	WA3GPC
Suitland	448.9250 -	167.9Hz	N3ST
Frederick	444.1000 +	167.9Hz	N3ST
Baltimore	449.6750 -	167.9Hz	N3ST
Orme (Baden)	447.0750 -	167.9Hz	N3ARN
Notes: Key the mic and delay 1 sec before speaking. Gives all repeaters time to key up together.			
Table 1			

October 6: Hospital operators send in Winlink logs, operating logs and a equipment status report to the Drill Incident Commander detailing fully operational, degraded or inoperative radio system conditions.

Hurricane Elmer hits near Ocean City, MD

MEMA sends out an email Thursday morning October 6 to the SEC requesting Amateur Radio support. The SEC forwards the message to the District ECS for action.

Friday night October 6 at 2000L an SET Echolink conference will be held among the ECS and other interested parties to discuss deployment particulars and any issues with health care facility equipment. Email to follow with an agenda. Based on the quantity of the participation, deployment orders will be issued at this time.

October 7: Saturday morning deployment teams will be staggardly deployed starting around 0600L. Vehicles shall be equipped with APRS radios beaconing voice alert on 144.39MHz. Once on the east side of the Bay, those with dual band capability will switch the non-APRS alternate band to the Salisbury, MD repeater on 146.82MHz (-) pl 156.7 and remain on this repeater through the duration of the drive to Ocean City. Once on site, VHF communications will be on 146.55MHz.

ARRL Simulated Emergency Test Exercise Plan – 2017

Maryland – DC Section

10.0 Safety Concern

If you have a yellow EmComm vest of any kind, wear it. If you have the magnetic vehicle ARES sign put it on your car. Be mindful of your surroundings. If anybody stops and wants to know what is going on, show them this document and explain this is a state wide (not state sponsored) ham radio exercise. Ocean City Emergency Management has been notified of the exercise. If any confrontation develops have them call “911 dispatch.”

11.0 SET Assignments

2017 MDC Section SET Assignments

Function	QTH (County)	F CC Call Sign	Tac Call Sign	Freq (MHz)	Notes
APRS Tracking	ALLE CALV HARF PRGE	N7NMS N3AE W3YR KB3IIE	n/a	144.39	Winmor status to Comm Center in Berlin
Command Center	Berlin (WORC)	WB3KAS	SET Command	145.55	SET Incident Commander Winmor status to MEMA
Atlantic Gen Hospital	Berlin (WORC)	KA3AHI	Atlantic	145.55	Hosp liaison
Command Post Fox Hunt	Am Legion Post 166, O-City (WORC)	N3ADF KB3YQK	Fox Control	145.55	
Fox Hunters	Boardwalk, OC (WORC)	AA3WS K3DO KB3SPH KB3SWS KB3YUZ - Fox!	Fox 1 Fox 2	TBD	KB3SPH is Lead
Command Post Snow Hill	Snow Hill, WORC EOC	KC3DSO	EOC	145.57 7.075	Alternate Winmor Freq
WORC Health Department	Snow Hill, WORC	KB3RAN	County Health	145.57	
Winmor Listening Operators	ANAR CALV MONT	N3TCR N3AE WA3YOO	n/a	3.575	Main Winmor Freq
Maryland Emergency Management Agency	BACO	W8IS using W3CBW	MEMA	3.575	

Table 2

ARRL Simulated Emergency Test Exercise Plan – 2017

Maryland – DC Section

11.1 SET APRS Assignments

SET radio operators will use ‘tactical call sign’ in lieu of their FCC call sign. The convention will be as follows: First four letters shall be “**MDST**” followed by two letters of your initials. To stay in good graces of the FCC, your FCC call sign will be placed in the status field, along with other passenger radio operator’s FCC call sign.

Known radio operators transiting from West to East to Worcester County having APRS are shown in Table 3 below.

Known SET APRS Capable Drivers Worcester County Bound				
FCC Call	F-name, L-name	County of Origin	APRS Tracking Call	Destination
K3DO	Mike Myers	Frederick	MDSTMM	Ocean City
KB3RAN	Dave Hardy	Calvert	MDSTDH	Snow Hill
KB3SPH	Jeff Humbert	Charles	MDSTJH	Ocean City
KB3YQK	Tim Nagle	Prince George’s	MDSTTN	Ocean City
KC3DSO	Steven Keller	Prince George’s	MDSTSK	Snow Hill
N3XKJ	Jim Baker	Prince George’s	MDSTJB	Berlin
WB2IFS	Jesse Alexander	Prince George’s	MDSTJA	Berlin
WB3KAS	Jim Montgomery	Prince George’s	MDSTJM	Berlin

Table 3

11.2 SET APRS Tracker Assignments

2017 MDC SET APRS Trackers

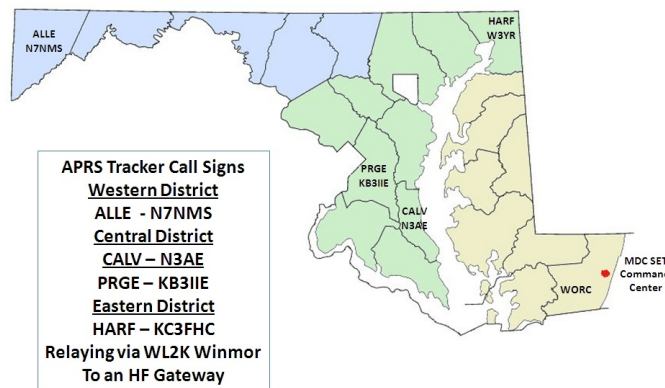


Figure 1

Trackers listed in Figure 1 will send periodic position and routing reports of the radio operators listed in Table 3 to wb3kas@winlink.org. Trackers will cease sending traffic when radio operators have arrived on site.

11.3 Addresses

Ocean City Operations
American Legion post 166
2308 Philadelphia Avenue
Ocean City, MD 21842
(parking lot out back)

Berlin Operations
James G. Barrett
Medical Office Building
9714 Healthway Drive
Berlin, MD 21811
(in the lobby)

Snow Hill Operations
Worcester County
Emergency Services
1 West Market Street
Snow Hill, MD 21863
(parking lot across the street)

Figure 2 is another display of the SET Assignments but showing only those supporting the Eastern Shore operations.

Eastern Shore Assignments

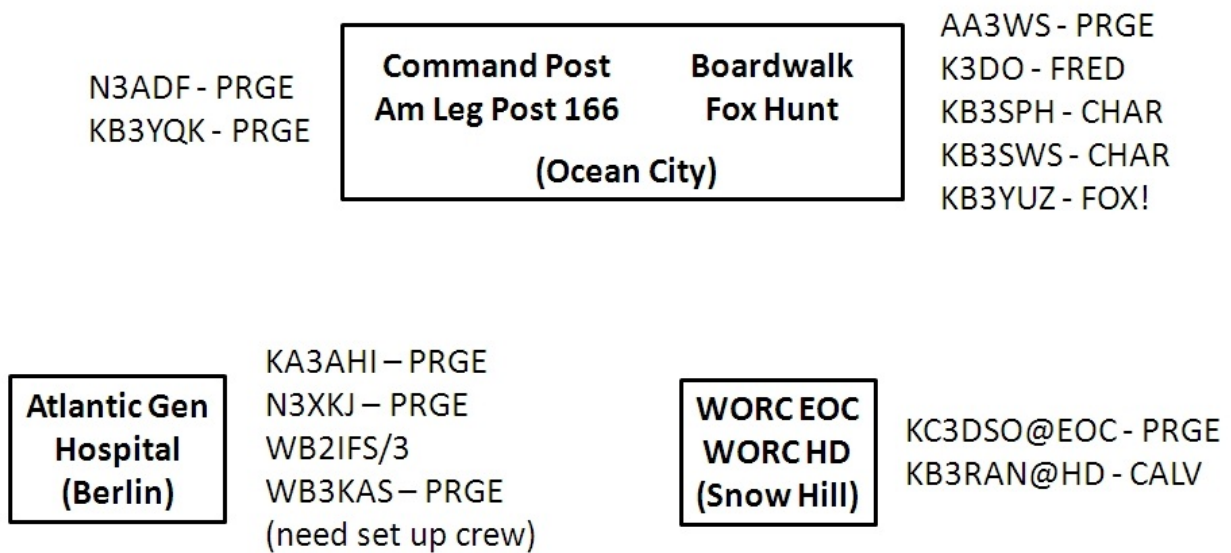


Figure 2

Assignments may change through out the SET. Every effort has been made to verify the intent of the radio operators to fill the those positions as assigned.

Inform the author of any changes and corrections of the Plan as soon as you are able.

12.0 Counties Supporting the SET

A few more counties have voiced an interest in supporting the SET. Eleven counties are now in the mix of players. See Figure 3 below for the list.

2017 MDC Section Known Counties Playing

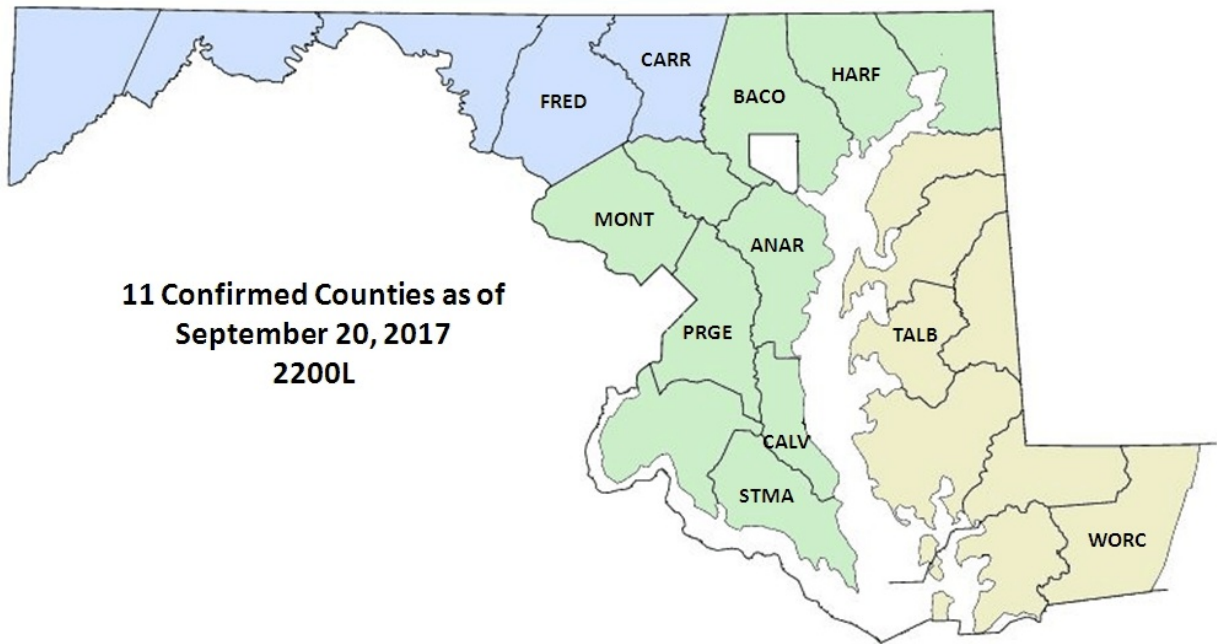


Figure 3

13.0 Repeaters and Winlink

13.1 Repeaters

Repeaters will not be used during the SET as they would be most likely be out of service due to the storm. However the Ocean Pines Repeater 145.19 (-) 156.7 is available if needed.

13.2 Winlink

Message traffic throughout the SET will be conducted with Winlink 2000. Peer-to-peer packet operations will be conducted between Ocean City and Berlin and between Snow Hill and Berlin. Winmor operations will be conducted between WORC operations and

ARRL Simulated Emergency Test Exercise Plan – 2017

Maryland – DC Section

MEMA. Packet stations located at the Command Posts will peer-to-peer their traffic to either Berlin or to Snow Hill Winmor stations. Berlin and Snow Hill will Winmor their traffic to MEMA or to a distant HF Gateway.

14.0 Echolink

On Friday night October 6, 2000L, there will be an Echolink SET Net. If you are Echolink capable, dial up the Washington Conference Node (WASH_DC) Node:6164. Have available the APRS operator call signs of their deployed teams.

15.0 Summary Table of SET Frequencies

The intent is to use Winlink in message traffic as much as possible. To that end the frequencies listed on the map in Figure 4 will be those in use during the exercise.

RF Paths Among SET Sites

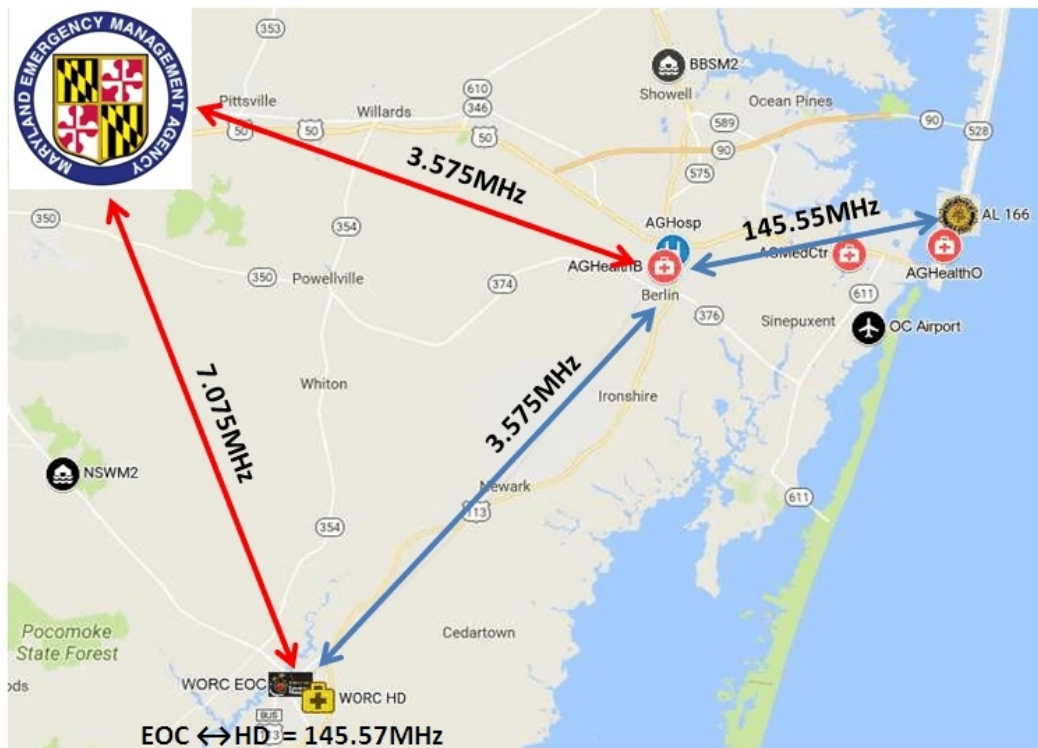


Figure 4

ARRL Simulated Emergency Test Exercise Plan – 2017

Maryland – DC Section

16.0 Range and Bearing

For those not sure if 2m beams will be required, Table 4 is provided. A beam will be erected at Berlin pointed in the southerly direction. Snow Hill will most likely do the same pointing toward Berlin.

Bearing/Range	Berlin	Ocean City	Snow Hill
Berlin	X	80°/7mi	227°/12mi
Ocean City	260°/7mi	X	240°/19mi
Snow Hill	47°/12mi	60°/19mi	X

Table 4

17.0 2017 MDC Section SET Reporting Requirements

17.1 ICS 214A Unit Log

Unit Logs will be kept in a ICS214A format. Bring a few paper copies or a fillable doc or pdf to document the activity at your Post.

No matter how insignificant the ‘Event’ may appear. . .log it!

ICS 214 Logs will be submitted by the Command Post lead to the MDC Section SET Incident Commander at wb3kas @arrl.net following the secure of the SET.

17.2 Winlink Express Logs

Winlink Express Logs will be submitted by the Command Post Lead Winlink Operator to the MDC Section SET Incident Commander at wb3kas @arrl.net following the secure of the SET.

18.0 Permissions Obtained

18.1 Salisbury Repeater 146.820MHz (-) 156.7. Permission has been obtained from the Board of Directors for the DelMarVa ARC to use K3DCR during the early stages of the SET.

18.2 Ocean Pines Repeater 145.190MHz (-) 156.7. Permission has been obtained from Worcester County Emergency Services and N3RCC, repeater trustee.

18.3 Sussex Winlink Packet Node WS3ARA-10 145.050MHz. Permission has been obtained from KB3KYH, Delaware Section Manager for the use of their Node through the duration of the SET. The Node is located SW of Milford, DE.

19.0 Relative Overview Map

Figure 5 shows the relative positions of MEMA and the SET activities on the Eastern Shore.

Icons BBSMS and NSW2 denote concerned water level gauges approaching critical flood stage. Current levels must be reported back to MEMA as soon as possible.

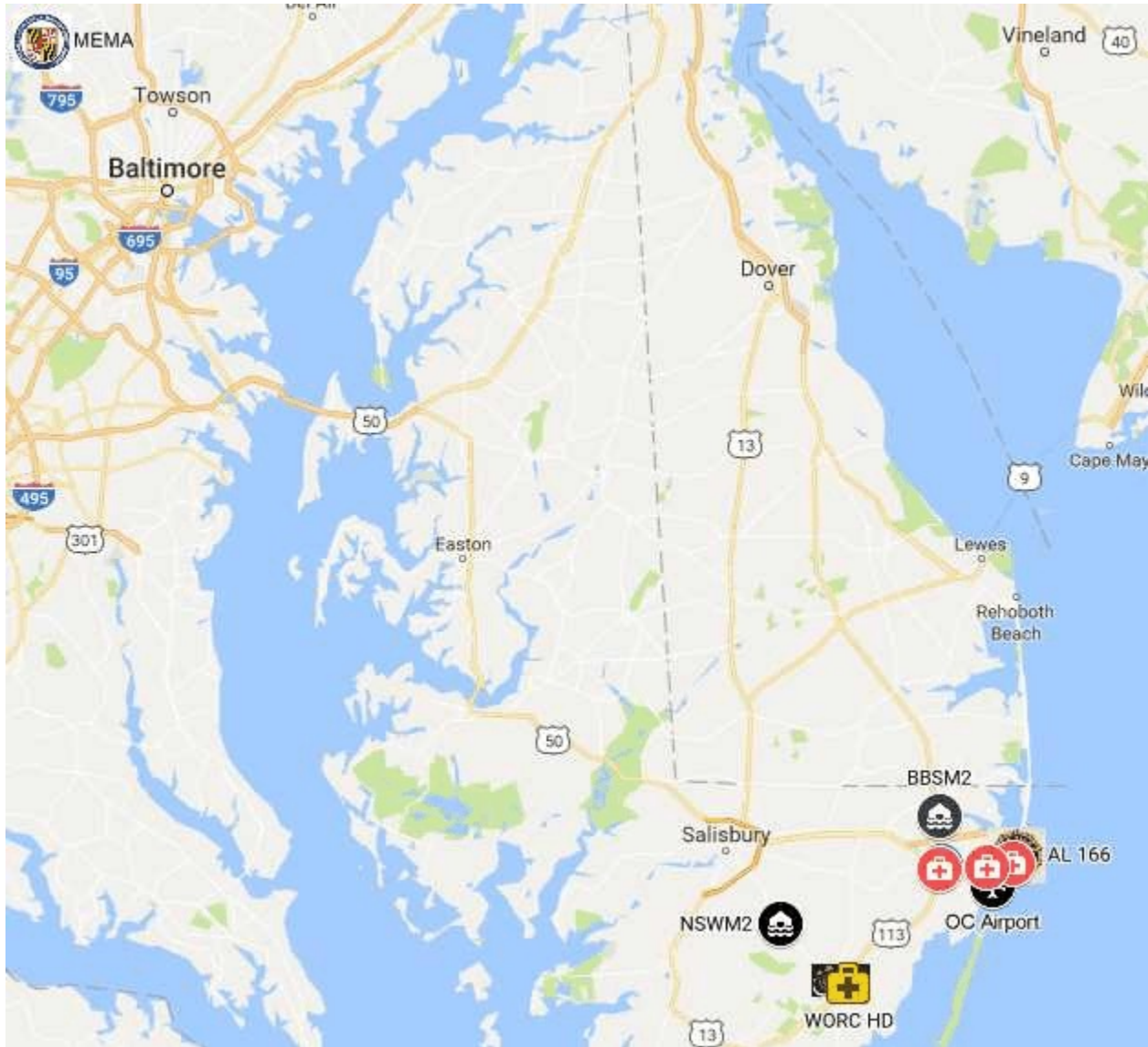


Figure 5

20.0 Winmor Operations

Winmor operators have added to the mix to provide the conduit to Internet email for the unfortunate served agencies in the ‘comms down situation.’ The call signs on the map in Figure 6 below have their HF radios tuned to 3575 or 7075kHz USB and Winlink Express opened in the Peer-to-Peer mode and wait for a connection from the Worcester County MDC Section SET Site.

Winmor Operators **DO NOT** need to sit at the radio all the time. An occasional look at the screen from time to time will suffice throughout SET duration starting any time after 0900.

Most of the traffic will be one way emails, i.e., health and welfare requiring no replies. Others might be traffic to MEMA and other government agencies playing in the drill. Email addresses will be included in the body of the message.

2017 MDC SET Winmor Relay Stations

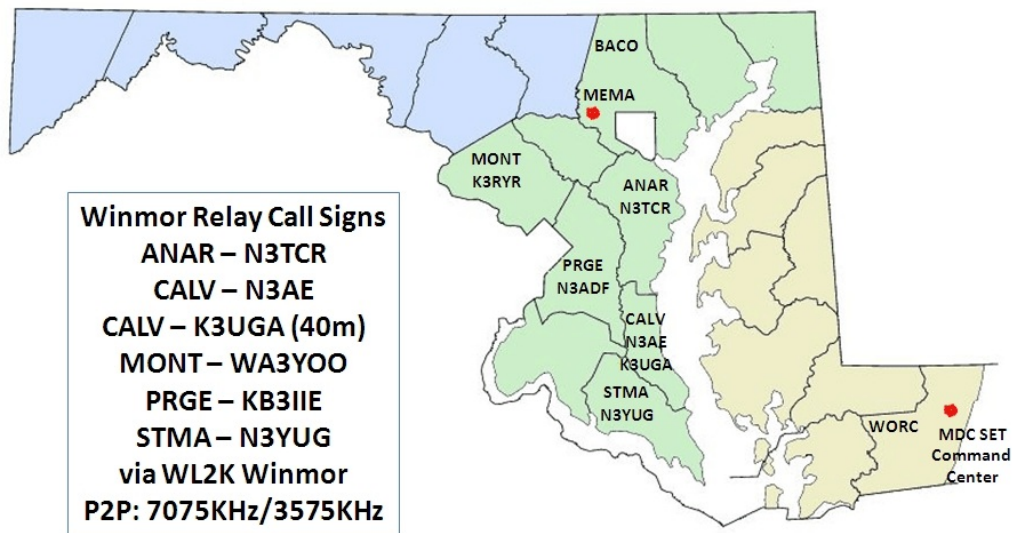


Figure 6

ARRL Simulated Emergency Test Exercise Plan – 2017

Maryland – DC Section

21.0 SET Incident Radio Communications Plan

The Communications Plan is shown in Table 4 below.

SET Incident Radio Communications Plan (ICS 205)

1. Incident Name 2017 MDC Section SET in WORC County, MD		2. Date /Time Prepared: 09-26-17/0010L		3. Operating Period: From: 10-07-17/0900L To: 10-07-17/1500L		
4. Basic Radio use:						
Function	Channel Name	Assignment	Rec Freq MHz	Split & Tone	Mode	Notes
In Route Repeater	VHF-1	Directions	146.820	(-) 156.7	FM	Salisbury, MD
Local Rptr	VHF-2	Directions	145.190	(-) 179.9	FM	WORC E.S.
OC <=>Berlin	VHF -3	Comm Post	145.550	n/a	FM	Voice & Digi
SH <=>Berlin	VHF-4	Comm Post	145.570	n/a	FM	Voice & Digi
Outbound - P2P	HF-1	Comm Center	3.575	n/a	USB	To MEMA
Outbound - P2P	HF-2	Comm Center	7.075	n/a	USB	Gateway & Alternate
Inbound	HF-1	Comm Center	3.575	n/a	USB	
Weather	SKYWARN	Net	??		FM	
Conference	Echolink	Link to Rptrs			D	Wash-DC Node: 6154
5. Prepared by: (Communications Unit)				Date/Time:		
INCIDENT RADIO COMMUNICATIONS PLAN						ICS-205
Table 4						

ARRL Simulated Emergency Test Exercise Plan – 2017

Maryland – DC Section

Maryland - DC Emergency Coordinator List and Contact Information

Maryland - DC Emergency Coordinator List and Contact Information					
County	4-Ltr Cnty Code	EC Name	Call	Email	Notes
Allegany	ALLE	Lynn DeHart	KB3FN	lwdehart@atlanticbb.net	acting during SET
Anne Arundel	ANAR	Frank Winner	N3SEO	n3seo@arrl.net	
Baltimore City	BACI	Don Gerkin	W3DVG	w3dvg@arrl.net	
Baltimore County	BACO	Joseph Krystoforski	AJ3X	aj3x@arrl.net	
Calvert	CALV	Shawn Donley	N3AE	n3ae@arrl.net	
Caroline	CARO	vacant			
Carroll	CARR	Steve Beckman	N3SB	n3sb@arrl.net	
Cecil	CECI	George Remhof	KB3LJB	gremhof@yahoo.com	
Charles	CHAR	Bob Davidson	KB3KOW	kb3kow@yahoo.com	
Dist of Columbia	DC	Jack Gunther	KB3KKY	kb3kky@arrl.net	
Dorchester	DORC	vacant			
Frederick	FRED	Mike Myers	K3DO	k3do@arrl.net	
Garrett	GARR	Howard Reynolds	WA3EOP	wa3eop@gmail.com	
Harford	HARF	Ted Wieworka	W3YR	dtwieworka@gmail.com	
Howard	HOWA	Richard Firestone	WR3F	wr3f@arrl.net	
Kent	KENT	vacant			
Montgomery	MONT	Fred Bader	K3CSX	k3csx@arrl.net	
Prince George's	PRGE	Jim Montgomery	WB3KAS	wb3kas@arrl.net	
Queen Anne's	QA	vacant			
Somerset	SOME	vacant			
St. Mary's	STMA	Ray Brown	KB3FWW	arbyone1@gmail.com	
Talbot	TALB	Bob Luff	W3GAC	luff.bob@gmail.com	
Washington	WASH	Maurice Eigenbrode	NI2W	ni2w@arrl.net	
Wicomico	WICO	John Taylor	W3JCT	jctsby@aol.com	
Worcester	WORC	vacant			
Last Updated: September 23, 2015					
Table 5					

Final Thoughts

At the start of your conversation, remember to say “This is a drill. . .this is a drill. . .this is a drill” when communicating simplex voice or over the repeater during this SET. Say it once when finished. Very important. Otherwise a listener who turned on the scanner or ham radio in the middle of your discussion will think this is the real thing and act. . .well you know. Very important.

The world may be listening. Nothing more need to be said. Keep the chatter short, to the point and focused.

Maryland - DC Section ARES
Winlink Radio Operators
are unpaid volunteers.

Not because they are worthless.

Because they are *priceless!*

~ **WB3KAS**