



Larkfield Amateur Radio Club, Inc.
P.O. Box 1450
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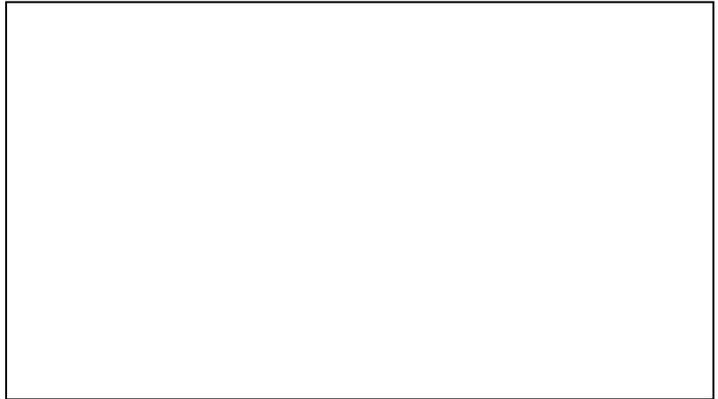


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The LARKFIELD AMATEUR RADIO CLUB, INC. is a broad based ARRL special service club located in western Suffolk County. We support a host of amateur radio activities including 6 amateur radio repeaters, Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES), Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Service (RACES), public service participation, weekly nets, monthly meetings and much more. In addition to our many other activities, we sponsor educational training for newcomers and upgrades as well as monthly Volunteer Exam sessions using our own Volunteer Examiner Team. We hope you will support our many activities. Amateur radio is not just a hobby, it is a national resource



Every major disaster throughout the entire world represents sudden local emergency conditions where loss of life, limb, property, necessary resources and even the ability to call for help have been forced upon people somewhere. When a news story breaks and we hear about it in the midst of our daily lives, the story is about the event itself and the extensive upset to life at the scene. However, somewhere in those initial reports, you often hear that it was some local ham radio operator who was first able to re-establish communications and get out the call for help. They're frequently first, they're usually there, and they always get the job done!

In our country, these reliable, highly trained, and dedicated amateur radio or "ham" radio operators are the your friends and neighbors. Amateurs they are, as they receive no pay or compensation for the services they eagerly provide in times of crisis. The pure satisfaction of provisioning extremely effective civil emergency communications is their fulfilling reward. Ham radio operators provided communications downtown on September 11, 2001 when the WTC disaster knocked out electricity, radio and television, and even NYC emergency communications! Amateur Radio Operators re-established communications within the first few hours. And that was right here at home!

Amateur Radio ("ham") Operators are trained and skilled in many aspects of communications and radio technology in order to pass the strict FCC licensing examinations to earn their licenses and radio "call sign." In very real terms, they are anything but amateur in the performance and utilization of their skills. They own and maintain their own radio equipment and are responsible for all aspects of the operation of their radio stations, whether it is from a fixed base location, a mobile or portable station, or from aircraft or marine locations. Hams have built, orbited, and operated their own satellites since 1961, only 4 years after the world's first satellite, Sputnik, blazed the skies. Hams are for real, and they are an incredibly valuable asset to the world, all the time!

Why use Amateur Radio? The answer is simple and obvious, and it's because amateur radio equipment is independent of commercial radio services like telephones, cell phones, and even Police, Fire, and EMS radio services, which are very limited in frequency and interoperability. Ham radio (Amateur Radio) is inherently frequency agile, readily portable, typically independent and self contained, therefore ideal for emergency dependability. Many hams are able to pick up and go, and set up communications on a moment's notice from almost anywhere. Many do just that for the enjoyment of it. You'll see hams in the parks and around towns providing supporting communications for public events like parades, marathon runs, etc. Such events are easy practice for hams, yet major events like the Boston Marathon New York Marathon, Cow Harbor Race, and more critically depend on them because hams get it done.