



HURRICANE EMCOM

POLK COUNTY ARES
26 JUNE 2025

“Taking on the task of personal preparedness is a big deal. It is not simply buying equipment and keeping batteries charged. It is self-training on how the equipment works. It is creating operational checklists that you go over and over, once a week or more, to check into nets, pass messages on Winlink, ensure that APRS is working properly, and check on the effectiveness of your antennas as well as ensure that the assumptions you’ve made on your personal plan are still valid. Has something changed? Respond by updating your plan and checklist. When the time comes, whatever it is, and however much or little notice you have, your muscle memory will kick in so you’re not trying to figure things out from scratch.”

David Minstar, ARRL CEO, “Personal Preparedness”, Page 9 QST

HURRICANE EMCOM

- Do I know what nets I should monitor or check into?
- Do I have the equipment I need to operate during an emergency?
- Do I have a back up power supply if the grid fails?

NETS

POLK COUNTY SKYWARN:

- WC4PEM REPEATER SYSTEM
- 146.985 neg. offset, 127.3 PL tone in Dundee, FL
- 444.950 pos. offset, 127.3 PL tone in Frost Proof, FL (S Polk County)
- 444.625 pos. offset, 127.3 PL tone near Interstate 4 and US Highway 27 (NE Polk County)
- 443.900 pos. offset, 127.3 PL tone in NW Lakeland, FL (Kathleen, FL)

NETS

POLK COUNTY SIMPLEX:

- VHF 147.510
- UHF 446.150

****DOWNLOAD THE POLK COUNTY COMM PLAN (ICS 205)****

NETS



The purpose of this net is to assure your equipment is operating properly and provide training for communications with the Polk County EOC in the case of an emergency.

Polk County GMRS Net

**on the POLK CERT Repeater
462.725 MHz (tone 141.3 Hz)**

**Tuesdays at
7:00pm**

NETS

NWS SKYWARN:

- NI4CE Repeater System (Analog) & NXDN Talkgroup 1299
- NI4CE Repeater System both FM and NXDN talkgroup 1299

*****Tuesdays 7:30 – 8:00pm*****

NETS

WCF SECTION ARES INFO NET:

- Routine net
- Mondays 1930 on NI4CE Repeater System

EQUIPMENT

- We have ARES “Go-Kits” with dual band radios

PERSONAL EQUIPMENT

- Dual UHF/VHF Radio recommended
- Portable antenna if operating remotely
- For HT's- longer antenna
- Spare Batteries (charged)



Simplex,
duplex,
offset, tone,
memory,
reset, etc

**Most important is that you can operate the
radio you have!**

BACK UP POWER

- Hurricane Helene- Power management was an issue
 - *Items took longer to charge than expected*
 - *Efficiency of power device not what you planned for*
 - *Over-reliance on one form or another (solar with no other back up for example)*
 - *Actual usage consumed more power than expected*
- Think thru your requirements and how to provide power
- Can you sustain your power solution
- Does your power solution work as you thought it would?
- Have you tested your power solution?



Other Thoughts

- Checklists!
 - Procedural
 - Loadout/Packing List
 - Make Your Own
 - Check the internet
- Practice!
 - Weekly Nets
 - Monthly QRPs hosted at county parks by LWRA
 - POTA

QUESTIONS?

DISCUSSION?

RESOURCES

GO KITS

- <https://www.scc-ares-races.org/operations/go-kit>
- https://ke7h1r.com/ecw/personal_go-kit_2011.pdf

REFERENCES

- https://www.arrl.org/files/file/Public%20Service/ARES/ARESFieldResourcesManual_rev10-2019.pdf