

## Chesapeake Amateur Radio Emergency Service (C.A.R.E.S.)

In an emergency, CARES can provide communications in support of the City of Chesapeake—across town, across the state, or across the nation.

CARES hold a weekly ARES Net every Wed night at 8:00 pm on the 146.82 MHz repeater w/ a PL Tone of 162.2 Hz for discussions in emergency communications.

CARES also provide communications as a public service to support events like the Tour de Cure bicycle event in support of diabetes research.

CARES will help radio operators to learn and practice the skills needed in such situations.



## Amateur Radio Facts

- No one really knows why we're called hams. There are many theories, but none can be proven.
- Amateur radio operators have responded to local and regional disasters since the 1930s, including the attacks of Sept 11, 2001 and Hurricane Katrina.
- During the Katrina event more than 1,000 ARES volunteers assisted in the aftermath and provided communications.
- Hams communicate by voice, many computer modes, television and are constantly developing new methods.
- There have been Amateur Radio satellites since 1961; currently there are more than a dozen.
- You do not need to learn Morse Code, although many hams find it to be fun.
- There are over 750,000 hams in the United States—more than ever.
- There are over 2,500 hams in the Hampton Roads area.
- There are two Amateur Radio stations on the International Space Station— one American and one Russian.
- Many hams make contacts with the astronauts onboard the space station.
- Amateur radio operators are much more than hobbyists; they provide extremely important communications, especially during and after emergencies.
- Hams can transmit up to 1,500 watts.

# Chesapeake Amateur Radio Emergency Service

In a world with smartphones, 24-hour news, and high-speed Internet access, it's hard to imagine all of it going silent, but it happens. It can happen during weather disasters like hurricanes or tornadoes. It can happen due to a power outage and it could happen due to a cyber-attack. That's when amateur radio becomes a life saver.



## Why did the Federal Government create amateur radio?

- (a) Recognition and enhancement of the value of the amateur service to the public as a voluntary noncommercial communication service, particularly with respect to providing emergency communications.
- (b) Continuation and extension of the amateur's proven ability to contribute to the advancement of the radio art.
- (c) Encouragement and improvement of the amateur service through rules which provide for advancing skills in both the communication and technical phases of the art.
- (d) Expansion of the existing reservoir within the amateur radio service of trained operators, technicians, and electronics experts.
- (e) Continuation and extension of the amateur's unique ability to enhance international goodwill.



## How does someone become an amateur radio operator?

Amateur Radio licenses are granted by the Federal Communications Commission after successfully passing a test that includes legal requirements, electronics theory, safety, and good operating procedures.

There are Amateur Radio clubs throughout Hampton Roads that conduct classes and administer the examinations. These clubs also provide a great way to meet people and share ideas and experiences.

CARES is affiliated with the Chesapeake Amateur Radio Service, the radio club in Chesapeake.

<https://w4car.org> -> public-service ->

C\*A\*R\*E\*S



## Do you want to help when an emergency or disaster strikes?

If you are already a licensed Amateur Radio operator, or want to become one, we can help you.

### Contact Us

Chesapeake Amateur Radio Service  
116 Reservation Rd.  
Chesapeake, VA 23322  
<http://w4car.org>

For general information about amateur radio or some local area clubs:

Visit:

<https://hamradiotidewater.com>

Or email:

[HamRadioTidewater@gmail.com](mailto:HamRadioTidewater@gmail.com)

