



THE FACTS ABOUT AMATEUR RADIO

FUN, AFFORDABLE AND A VITAL SERVICE TO THE COMMUNITY DURING EMERGENCIES. PASS ONE 35 QUESTION LICENSING TEST ON BASIC ELECTRONICS AND AMATEUR RADIO RULES AND YOU TOO CAN BE A HAM. MORSE CODE IS NO LONGER REQUIRED FOR LICENSING

WHO IS INVOLVED IN HAM RADIO?

THOUSANDS OF PEOPLE WORLDWIDE FOR ALL WALKS OF LIFE

AN ENJOYABLE HOBBY

SOME OPERATORS ENJOY PARTICIPATING IN CONTESTS TO SEE HOW MANY PEOPLE THEY CAN CONTACT IN A FEW HOURS OR THEY MIGHT SET A PERSONAL GOAL OF SPEAKING WITH SOMEONE IN EACH OF THE 50 STATES OR IN EVERY COUNTRY.

OTHERS EXPERIMENT WITH BOUNCING RADIO SIGNALS OFF THE MOON OR OFF RAINDROPS TO SEE HOW FAR THEIR SIGNAL WILL TRAVEL. AND SOME OPERATORS JUST WANT TO BE ABLE TO TALK TO FRIENDS AND FAMILY. THERE ARE AS MANY INTERESTS IN AMATEUR RADIO AS THERE ARE OPERATORS SO THERE IS SOMETHING FOR EVERYONE.

EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS

AMATEUR RADIO IS A VITAL PART OF OUR COMMUNITY. DURING DISASTERS, HAM RADIO OPERATORS ASSIST LOCAL AND STATE OFFICIALS WITH EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS WHEN PHONE LINES, CELL TOWERS AND COMPUTER SERVICES ARE LOST OR OVERWHELMED.

AMATEUR RADIO OPERATORS HAVE A LONG TRADITION OF SERVICE AND HAVE RESPONDED DURING AFTER TERRORIST ATTACKS, FLOODS, HURRICANES AND EARTHQUAKES. MOST COMMUNITIES INCLUDE AMATEUR RADIO AS AN IMPORTANT PART OF THEIR EMERGENCY RESPONSE PLANS.

HOW MUCH DOES IT COST?

AMATEUR RADIO IS SUPRISINGLY AFFORDABLE. THERE IS AN FCC LICENSING FEE OF \$15 THAT IS PAID WHEN YOU TAKE THE EXAM. YOU CAN TAKE FREE LICENSING COURSES THROUGH THE HAMPTON PUBLIC SERVICE TEAM TO HELP YOU PREPARE FOR THE TEST OR YOU CAN STUDY ONLINE AT SEVERAL HAM RADIO WEBSITES, BUT YOU WILL NEED A TEXTBOOK THAT WILL COST AROUND \$25. AFTER YOU PASS THE TEST AND GET YOUR "CALLSIGN" OR PERSONAL RADIO IDENTIFICATION, THE COST IS REALLY UP TO YOU. BASIC RADIOS CAN COST LESS THAN \$100 OR THOUSANDS, BASED ON WHAT FEATURES YOU ARE LOOKING FOR. USED EQUIPMENT IS AVAILABLE.

ARE YOU READY TO JOIN IN THE FUN?

CONTACT: KE4UP@ARRL.NET OR KC4F@ARRL.NET

THE HAMPTON PUBLIC SERVICE TEAM MEETS THE LAST SATURDAY OF EVERY MONTH AT THE ELKS LODGE IN HAMPTON, 2204 MINGEE DR.

WEEKLY RADIO NET MONDAYS BEGINNING AT 7:15 PM.

145.490 (-) REPEATER

MEMBERSHIP IS NOT REQUIRED FOR PARTICIPATION.