

# PRESS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## Radio Amateurs from Los Angeles join in National Deployment

### EMERGENCY DEPLOYMENT EXERCISE

"Field Day" Demonstrates Emergency Radio Communications to the Public. On the weekend of June 25–26, from 11 am PDT Saturday to 11am PDT Sunday (24 hours), Amateur Radio operators from the Northwest District of the Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES) and Los Angeles Emergency Communications Group in Los Angeles will demonstrate their disaster communications capabilities at San Vicente Park, 17500 Mulholland Dr, Los Angeles, CA 90049. Joining thousands of other radio amateurs across the USA and Canada for the event known as "Field Day." Field Day is an annual event sponsored by ARRL, the National Association for Amateur Radio. Field Day combines an emergency preparedness exercise, a contest, an educational program and a social event celebrating Amateur Radio. Deploying portable radio equipment in field locations such as mountaintops, campgrounds, parks, ships at sea, emergency operations centers or even ordinary backyards, participating Field Day radio stations contact as many other stations as they can during the Field Day period. Each radio contact increases a station's score in the contest, with extra points awarded for contacts using radio modes that require the most skill. In a disaster, communications infrastructure is frequently one of the first casualties, and Amateur Radio's reputation for stepping in to provide free vital emergency communications is well known. Ham operators are often the first to provide critical communications for rescue crews. During Hurricanes Katrina, Harvey, Irma and Maria Amateur Radio was often the ONLY way that people could communicate, and hundreds of ham volunteers traveled south to save lives and property. Field Day trains radio amateurs to exchange information rapidly and accurately, and to deploy and operate radio equipment in adverse conditions. In addition, Field Day is an opportunity for non-hams to learn to make radio contacts, experiencing the thrill that has captivated generations of hams. Young people are encouraged to visit and participate, learning from experienced ham operators who are glad to mentor a new generation of skilled radio communicators. Under the guidance of an experienced control operator, visitors to San Vicente Park will have the opportunity to make live radio contacts, many of them with stations thousands of miles away. In addition, visitors can learn how to get their very own FCC-issued Amateur Radio license and call sign. For more information about Amateur Radio Emergency Communications, visit <http://www.laemcomm.org>. For more information about the Los Angeles Section of ARRL, visit <http://www.arrllax.org>. Location at San Vicente Park, 17500 Mulholland Dr, Los Angeles, CA 90049, "ARES" and "Amateur Radio Emergency Service" are registered service marks of the American Radio Relay League, Inc., and are used by permission.

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