

AMATEUR RADIO

FD★26

A NATIONAL RESOURCE

**Field Day
June 27-28, 2026**

**Start: 1800 UTC Saturday
End: 2059 UTC Sunday (see rules 3.1, 3.2, 3.3)**

Always the fourth full weekend in June

For information contact:

Field Day Information
ARRL
225 Main St.
Newington, CT 06111
fdinfo@arrl.org

(860) 594-0232

<http://www.arrl.org/field-day>



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ARRL Field Day 2026 Rules

No changes have been made to the rules in the past year.

1. Eligibility: Field Day is open to all amateurs in the areas covered by the ARRL/RAC Field Organizations and countries within IARU Region 2. DX stations residing in other regions may be contacted for credit and may submit entries as check-logs.

2. Object: To work as many stations as possible on the 160-, 80-, 40-, 20-, 15- and 10-Meter HF bands, as well as all bands 50 MHz and above, and in doing so to learn to operate in abnormal situations in less-than-optimal conditions. A premium is placed on developing skills to meet the challenges of emergency preparedness as well as to acquaint the general public with the capabilities of Amateur Radio. See also recommended frequencies FAQ.

3. Date and Time Period: Field Day 2026 will be held June 27-28. Field Day is ALWAYS the fourth full weekend of June, beginning at 1800 UTC Saturday and ending at 2059 UTC Sunday.

3.1. Class A and B (see below) stations that do not begin setting up until 1800 UTC on Saturday may operate the entire 27-hour Field Day period.

3.2. Stations who begin setting up before 1800 UTC Saturday may work only 24 consecutive hours, commencing when on-the-air operations begin.

3.3. No class A or B station may begin its set-up earlier than 0000 UTC on the Friday (Thursday afternoon or evening local time) preceding the Field Day period. Cumulative set-up time shall not exceed a total of 24 hours.

4. Entry Categories: Field Day entries are classified according to the maximum number of *simultaneously* transmitted signals, followed by a designator indicating the nature of their individual or group participation. The minimum number of transmitters that must be claimed is one (1). Twenty (20) transmitters maximum are eligible for the purpose of calculating bonus points (2,000 points maximum). However, additional transmitters which may legitimately be used simultaneously will determine your entry category classification, but will not earn additional bonus points (i.e. 22 transmitters = 22A). The use of switching systems that allow for lock-outs in order to use multiple transmitters (i.e., an “octopus”) in an attempt to enter a lower-number-of-transmitters class are prohibited (i.e. using 2 transmitters that can transmit simultaneously, with two operators, and a lock-out system and entering class 1A). The use of simulcasting devices which allow a single operator to key and transmit on more than one transmitter at a time, is prohibited. **Bonus stations, such as the GOTA station and satellite station do not count towards determining the number of transmitters for the class and do not qualify for transmitter bonus points.**

4.1. (Class A) Club / non-club portable: Club or a non-club group of three or more persons set up specifically for Field Day. Such stations must be located in places that are not regular station locations and must not use facilities installed for permanent station use, or use any structure installed permanently for Field Day. A single licensee or trustee for the entry is responsible for the group entry. All equipment (including antennas) must lie within a circle whose diameter does not exceed 300 meters (1000 feet). To be listed as Class A, all contacts must be made with transmitter(s) and receiver(s) operating independent of commercial power mains. Entrants whom for any reason operate a transmitter or receiver from a commercial main for one or more contacts will be listed separately as Class A-Commercial.

4.1.1. Get On The Air (GOTA) Station (updated for 2025): Any Class A or F entry may also operate one additional station without changing its base entry category, known as the Get On The Air (GOTA) station. **This GOTA station may operate on any Field Day band, HF or VHF, but is limited to one GOTA station transmitted signal at any time.**

4.1.1.1. This station **must use** a different callsign from the primary Field Day station. The GOTA station must use the same callsign for the duration of the event regardless if operators change. **The GOTA station uses the same exchange as its parent.**

4.1.1.2. The GOTA station may be operated by any person licensed since the previous year's Field Day, regardless of license class. It may also be operated by a generally inactive licensee. Non-licensed persons may participate under the direct supervision of an appropriate control operator. A list of operators and participants must be included on the required summary sheet to ARRL HQ.

4.1.1.3. As per FCC rules, this station must have a valid control operator present at the control point if operating beyond the license privileges of the participant using the station.

4.1.1.4. The maximum transmitter output power for the GOTA station shall be **100 watts**. If the primary Field Day group is claiming the QRP multiplier level of five (5), the maximum transmitter output power of the GOTA station may not exceed 5 watts.

4.1.1.5. There is no limit to the number of contacts made by the GOTA station. QSOs made by this station may be claimed for credit by its primary Field Day operation. In addition, bonus points may be earned by this station under rule 7.3.13.

4.1.1.6. The GOTA station may operate on any Field Day band. Only one transmitted signal is allowed from the GOTA station at any time.

4.1.1.7. The GOTA station does not affect the additional VHF/UHF station provided for under Field Day Rule 4.1.2. for Class A stations.

4.1.1.8. Participants are reminded that non-licensed participants working under the direction of a valid control operator may only communicate with other W/VE stations or with stations in countries with which the US has entered a third-party agreement.

4.1.1.9. The GOTA station does not qualify as an additional transmitter when determining the number of transmitters eligible for the 100-point emergency power bonus under Rule 7.3.1.

4.1.2. Free VHF Station: All Class A entries may also operate one additional transmitter if it operates exclusively on any band or combination of bands above 50 MHz (VHF/UHF) without changing its basic entry classification. This station does not qualify for a 100-point bonus as an additional transmitter. This station may be operated for the clubs Field Day period and all contacts count for QSO credit. It is operated using the primary callsign and exchange of the main Field Day group and is separate and distinct from the GOTA station.

4.2. (Class A - Battery) Club / non-club portable: Club or non-club group of three or more persons set up specifically for Field Day. All contacts must be made using an output power of 5 watts or less **and** the power source must be something other than commercial power mains or motor-driven generator (e.g.: batteries, solar cells, water-driven generator). Other provisions are the same for regular Class A. Class AB is eligible for a GOTA station if GOTA requirements are met; however, if a GOTA station is used in this class it must meet the 5 watts or less power requirement of this category. Class A - Battery entries will be listed separately.

4.3. (Class B) One or two person portable: A Field Day station set up and operated by no more than two persons. Other provisions are the same for Class A except it is not eligible for a GOTA or free VHF station. One- and two-person Class B entries will be listed separately.

4.4. (Class B - Battery) One or two person portable: A Field Day station set up and operated by no more than two persons. All contacts must be made using an output power of 5 watts or less **and** the power source must be something other than commercial mains or motor-driven generator. Other provisions are the same for Class A except it is not eligible for a GOTA or free VHF station. One- and two-person Class B - Battery entries will be listed separately.

4.5. (Class C) Mobile: Stations in vehicles capable of operating while in motion and normally operated in this manner. This includes maritime and aeronautical mobile. If the Class C station is being powered from a car battery or alternator, it qualifies for emergency power but does not qualify for the multiplier of 5, as the alternator/battery system constitutes a motor-driven generating system.

4.6. (Class D) Home stations: Stations operating from permanent or licensed station locations using commercial power. Class D may work all Field Day stations.

4.7. (Class E) Home stations - Emergency power: Same as Class D, but using emergency power for transmitters and receivers. Class E may work all Field Day stations.

4.8. (Class F) Emergency Operations Centers (EOC): An amateur radio station at an established EOC activated by a club or non-club group. Class F operation must take place at an established EOC site. Stations may utilize equipment and antennas temporarily or permanently installed at the EOC for the event. Entries will be reported according to number of transmitters in simultaneous operation. Class F stations are eligible for a free VHF station.

4.8.1. For Field Day purposes, an Emergency Operations Center (EOC) is defined as a facility established by:

- a) a Federal, State, County, City or other Civil Government, agency or administrative entity; or,
 - b) a Chapter of a national or international served agency (such as American Red Cross or Salvation Army) with which your local group has an established operating arrangement;
- 4.8.1.1. A private company EOC does not qualify for Class F status unless approved by the ARRL Field Day Manager.

4.8.2. Planning of a Class F operation must take place in conjunction and cooperation with the staff of the EOC being activated.

4.8.3. Other provisions not covered are the same as Class A.

4.8.4. A Class F station may claim the emergency power bonus if emergency power is available at the EOC site.

4.8.4.1. The emergency power source must be tested during the Field Day period but you are not required to run the Class F operation under emergency power.

5. Exchange:

Stations in ARRL / RAC sections will exchange their Field Day operating Class and ARRL / RAC section. Example: a three transmitter Class A station in Connecticut which also has a GOTA station and the extra VHF station would send "3A CT" on CW or Digital, or "3 Alpha Connecticut" on Phone.

DX stations send operating class and the term DX (i.e. 2A DX).

6. Miscellaneous Rules:

6.1. A person may not contact for QSO credit any station from which they also participate.

6.2. A transmitter/receiver/transceiver used to contact one or more Field Day stations may not subsequently be used under any other callsign to participate in Field Day. Family stations are exempt provided the subsequent callsign used is issued to and used by a different family member.

6.3. Field Day contacts are allowed using Phone, CW and Digital (non-CW) modes. Stations can be worked once per band per mode under this rule.

6.4. Each contact must include contemporaneous direct initiation by both operators making a contact.

Initiation of a contact may be by either local or remote control. Fully automated contacts are prohibited.

6.5. For any of the three event modes (CW, Phone, or Digital), only one transmitted signal (or data stream) per band is permitted at any time. Multi Streaming (eg. using Fox and Hound Mode; Dxpediton Mode, or MSHV) is prohibited.

- 6.6. All voice contacts are equivalent.
- 6.7. All non-CW digital contacts are equivalent.
- 6.8. Cross-band contacts are not permitted (Satellite QSOs cross-band contacts are exempted).
- 6.9. The use of more than one transmitter at the same time on a single band-mode is prohibited. Exception: a dedicated GOTA station may operate as prescribed in Rule 4.1.
- 6.10. No repeater contacts are allowed.
- 6.11. Batteries may be charged while in use. Except for Class D stations, the batteries must be charged from a power source other than commercial power mains. To claim the power multiplier of five, the batteries must be charged from something other than a motor driven generator or commercial mains.
- 6.12. All stations for a single entry must be operated under one callsign, except when a dedicated GOTA station is operated as provided under Field Day Rule 4.1.1. it uses a single, separate callsign.

7. Scoring: Scores are based on the total number of QSO points times the power multiplier corresponding to the highest power level under which any contact was made during the Field Day period plus the bonus points.

Aggregate Club Score: An aggregate club score will also be published, which will be the sum of all individual entries indicating a specific club (similar to the aggregate score totals used in ARRL affiliated club competitions). Participants from any Class can optionally include a single club name with their submitted results following Field Day. For example, if Podunk Hollow Radio Club members Becky, W1BXY, and Hiram, W1AW, both participate in 2023 Field Day – Hiram from his Class D home station, and Becky from her Class C mobile station – both can include the radio club’s name when reporting their individual results. The published results listing will include individual scores for Hiram and Becky, plus a combined score for all entries identified as Podunk Hollow Radio Club.

7.1. QSO Points:

- 7.1.1. Phone contacts count one point each.
- 7.1.2. CW contacts count two points each.
- 7.1.3. Digital contacts count two points each.

7.2. Power multipliers: The power multiplier that applies is determined by the highest power output of any of the transmitters used during the Field Day operation. **Power output for classes A, B and C cannot exceed 500 watts Peak Envelope Power (PEP) transmitter output. Power output for classes D, E and F cannot exceed 100 watts Peak Envelope Power (PEP) transmitter output.**

- 7.2.1. If all contacts are made using a power of 5 watts or less *and* if a power source other than commercial mains or motor-driven generator is used (batteries, solar cells, water-driven generator), the power multiplier is five (5).
- 7.2.2. If all contacts are made using a power of 5 watts or less, but the power source is from a commercial main or from a motor-driven generator, the power multiplier is 2. If batteries are charged during the Field Day period using commercial mains or a motor-driven generator the power multiplier is two (2).
- 7.2.3. If any or all contacts are made using an output power up to 100 watts or less, the power multiplier is two (2).
- 7.2.4. If any or all contacts are made using an output power greater than 100 watts, the power multiplier is one (1).
- 7.2.5. The power multiplier for an entry is determined by the maximum output power used by any transmitter used to complete any contact during the event. (Example: a group has one QRP station running 3 watts and a second station running 500 watts, the power multiplier of one (1) applies to all contacts made by the entire operation).

7.3. Bonus Points: All stations are eligible for certain bonus points, depending on their entry class. The following bonus points will be added to the score, after the multiplier is applied, to determine the final Field Day score. Bonus points will be applied only when the claim is made on the summary sheet and any proof required accompanies the entry or is received via email or normal mail delivery.

7.3.1. 100% Emergency Power: 100 points per transmitter classification if all contacts are made only using an emergency power source up to a total of 20 transmitters (**maximum 2,000 points.**) **GOTA station and free VHF Station for Class A and F entries do not qualify for bonus point credit and should not be included in the club’s transmitter total.** All transmitting equipment at the site must operate from a power source completely independent of the commercial power mains to qualify. (Example: a club operating 3 transmitters plus a GOTA station and using 100% emergency power receives 300 bonus points.) **Available to Classes A, B, C, E, and F.**

7.3.2. Media Publicity: 100 bonus points may be earned for **obtaining publicity from the local media**. A copy of the actual media publicity received (newspaper article, etc.) must be submitted to claim the points. Any combination of bona fide media hits would qualify for the bonus points. For example, details of your upcoming or ongoing Field Day activity, or your Field Day results, as posted on a news media site (which could include the media site's Facebook, Twitter, or Instagram) would meet the bonus criteria. **Available to all Classes.**

7.3.3. Public Location: 100 bonus points for physically locating the Field Day operation in a public place (i.e. shopping center, park, school campus, etc) and actively welcoming the public. Person(s) shall be available to greet the public and be identified by some sort of name badge. The intent is for amateur radio to not only be on display to the public, but to also engage any visitors showing up at your location. **Available to Classes A, B and F.**

7.3.4. Public Information Table: 100 bonus points for a Public Information Table at the Field Day site. The purpose is to make appropriate handouts and information available to the visiting public at the site. **Available to Classes A, B and F.**

7.3.5. Message Origination to Section Manager: 100 bonus points for origination of a formal message to the ARRL Section Manager or Section Emergency Coordinator by your group from its site. You should include the club name, number of participants, Field Day location, and number of ARES operators involved with your station. **The message must be transmitted during the Field Day period and a copy of it must be included in your submission in either standard NTS or ICS-213 format (or have the equivalent content) or no credit will be given. The message must leave or enter the Field Day operation via amateur radio RF.**

The Section Manager message is separate from the messages handled in Rule 7.3.6. and may not be claimed for bonus points under that rule. **Available to all Classes.**

7.3.6. Message Handling: 10 points for each formal message originated, relayed, or received and delivered during the Field Day period, up to a maximum of 100 points (ten messages). Copies of each message must be included with the Field Day report. The message to the ARRL SM or SEC under Rule 7.3.5. does not count towards the total of 10 for this bonus. **Messages claimed under this bonus must be in either standard NTS or ICS-213 format (or have the equivalent content). All messages claimed for bonus points must leave or enter the Field Day operation via amateur radio RF. Available to all Classes.**

7.3.7. Satellite QSO: 100 bonus points for successfully completing at least one QSO via an amateur radio satellite during the Field Day period. Groups are allowed one dedicated satellite transmitter station without increasing their entry category. Satellite QSOs also count for regular QSO credit. Show them listed separately on the summary sheet as a separate "band." You do not receive an additional bonus for contacting different satellites, though the additional QSOs may be counted for QSO credit unless prohibited under Rule 7.3.7.1. The QSO must be between two Earth stations through a satellite. **Available to Classes A, B, and F.**

7.3.7.1 Stations are limited to one (1) completed QSO on any single channel FM satellite.

7.3.8. Alternate Power: 100 bonus points for Field Day groups making a minimum of five QSOs without using power from commercial mains or petroleum driven generator. This means an "alternate" energy source of power, such as solar, wind, methane or water. This includes batteries charged by natural means (not dry cells). The natural power transmitter counts as an additional transmitter. If you do not wish to increase your operating category, you should take one of your other transmitters off the air while the natural power transmitter is in operation. A separate list of natural power QSOs should be submitted with your entry. **Available to Classes A, B, E, and F.**

7.3.9. W1AW Bulletin: 100 bonus points for copying the special Field Day bulletin transmitted by W1AW (or K6KPH) during its operating schedule during the Field Day weekend (listed in this rules announcement). An accurate copy of the message is required to be included in your Field Day submission. (Note: The Field Day bulletin must be copied via amateur radio. It will not be included in Internet bulletins sent out from Headquarters and will not be posted to Internet BBS sites.) **Available to all Classes.**

7.3.10. Educational activity bonus: One (1) 100-point bonus may be claimed if your Field Day operation includes a specific educational-related activity. The activity can be diverse and must be related to amateur radio. It must be some type of formal activity. It can be repeated during the Field Day period but only one bonus is earned. For more information consult the FAQ in the complete Field Day packet. **Available to Classes A & F entries and available clubs or groups operating from a club station in class D and E with 3 or more participants.**

7.3.11. Site Visitation by an elected governmental official: One (1) 100-point bonus may be claimed if your Field Day site is visited by an elected government official as the result of an invitation issued by your group. **Available to all Classes.**

7.3.12. Site Visitation by a representative of an agency: One (1) 100-point bonus may be claimed if your Field Day site is visited by a representative of an agency served by ARES in your local community (American Red Cross, Salvation Army, local Emergency Management, law enforcement, etc.) as the result of an invitation issued by your group. ARRL officials (SM, SEC, DEC, EC, etc) do not qualify for this bonus. **Available to all Classes.**

7.3.13. GOTA Bonus: Class A and F stations operating a GOTA station may earn the following bonus points:

7.3.13.1. Any successfully completed contacts made by an operator at the GOTA station are worth five (5) bonus points, regardless of mode used. There is no limit to the number of contacts a single GOTA operator can make. The GOTA station bonus points are not multiplied by the power multiplier (this is a clarification of the rules published in 2023.)

7.3.13.2. If a GOTA station is supervised by a GOTA Coach, a single 100-point bonus will be earned.

7.3.13.2.1. The GOTA Coach supervises the operator of the station, doing such things as answering questions and talking them through contacts, but may not make contacts or perform logging functions.

7.3.13.2.2. To qualify for this bonus, there must be a designated GOTA Coach present and supervising for at least 10 contacts.

7.3.14. Web submission: A 50-point bonus may be claimed by a group submitting their Field Day entry via the <https://field-day.arrl.org/fdentry.php> web app. **Available to all Classes.**

7.3.15. Field Day Youth Participation:

7.3.15.1. A 20-point bonus (up to a maximum of 100 points) may be earned by any Class A, C, D, E, or F group for each participant age 18 or younger at your Field Day operation that completes at least one QSO.

7.3.15.2. For a 1-person Class B station, a 20-point bonus is earned if the operator is age 18 or younger. For a 2-person Class B station, a 20-point bonus is earned for each operator age 18 or younger (maximum of 40 points.) Keep in mind that Class B is only a 1- or 2-person operation. This bonus does not allow the total number of participants in Class B to exceed 1 or 2.

7.3.16 Social Media: 100 points for promoting your Field Day activation to the general public via an active, recognized and utilized social media platform (Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, etc). This bonus is available to bona fide Amateur Radio clubs and Field Day groups that welcome visitors to their operation. **Individual participants do not qualify for this bonus.** Club websites do not qualify for this bonus. **Available to all classes.**

7.3.17 Safety Officer Bonus: A 100-point bonus may be earned by having a person serving as a Safety Officer for those groups setting up Class A stations. This person must verify that all safety concerns on the Safety Officer Check List (found in the ARRL Field Day Packet) have been adequately met. This is an active bonus – simply designating someone as Safety Officer does not automatically earn this bonus. A signed copy of the Safety Officer Check List must be included in the supporting documentation sent to ARRL HQ in order to claim this bonus. **Available to Class A entries only.**

7.3.18. Field Day Site Responsibilities Bonus: A 50-point bonus may be earned by having a person ensure that the Field Day site is free of hazards, and that safety precautions have been taken throughout the entire event, as well as providing a point of contact to the visiting public or served agency officials. A signed copy of the Field Day Responsibilities Check List must be included in the supporting documentation sent to ARRL HQ in order to claim this bonus. **Available to Class B, C, D, E, or F entries.**

8. Reporting:

8.1. Entries may be submitted to the ARRL via:

8.1.1. Field Day Web App at <https://field-day.arrl.org/fdentry.php> or

8.1.2. USPS or other delivery service to (tracking highly recommended):

Field Day Entries, 225 Main St, Newington, CT 06111.

8.2. Entries must be postmarked or submitted by Tuesday July 28, 2026. Late entries cannot be accepted.

8.3. A complete Field Day Web App entry consists of:

8.3.1. An official ARRL summary sheet which is completed via web app at <https://field-day.arrl.org/fdentry.php>;

8.3.2. Supporting information uploaded via web app. Supporting information must include:

8.3.2.1. An attached list of stations worked by band/mode during the Field Day period (dupe sheet or an alpha/numeric list sorted by band and mode – a Cabrillo log can be submitted in lieu of a Dupe Sheet/Calls list by band/mode); and

8.3.2.2. Proof of bonus points claimed (press releases, NTS messages handled, photographs, etc.)

8.3.2.3 The web app will display a confirmation number and email a confirmation of your Field Day entry to the email address entered via the app. Please be sure to record this confirmation number and/or save the confirmation email.

8.4 While the preferred method of submitting entries is via the web app, entries and/or supporting documentation may alternately be submitted via email to fieldday@arrl.org. A complete non-web-app email submission consists of:

8.4.1. An electronic copy of an ARRL summary sheet completely and accurately filled out;

8.4.2. An attached list of stations worked by band/mode during the Field Day period (dupe sheet or an alpha/numeric list sorted by band and mode); and

8.4.3. Proofs of bonus points claimed (copies of visitor logs, media coverage, NTS messages handled, photographs, etc.)

8.5. A complete land/postal-mail or delivery non-electronic submission consists of:

8.5.1. A complete and accurate ARRL summary sheet;

8.5.2. An accompanying list of stations worked by band/mode during the Field Day period (dupe sheet or an alpha/numeric list sorted by band and mode); and

8.5.3. Proofs of bonus points claimed (copies of visitor logs, press releases, NTS messages handled, photographs, etc.).

8.6. Complete station logs are NOT required for submission, and ARRL does not use the logs. The club should maintain log files for one year in case they are requested by ARRL HQ. **However, a list of stations worked sorted by band and mode (dupe sheet) is required.**

8.7. Cabrillo format log files are NOT required for Field Day entries, but they will be accepted in lieu of the dupe sheets (but do not constitute an entry unless the web app or a corresponding summary sheet with complete mailed entry) is also submitted.

8.8. Digital images of proof of bonus points are acceptable.

8.9. Electronic submissions are considered signed when submitted.

9. Miscellaneous:

9.1. The schedule of bulletin times for W1AW is included in this announcement. While W1AW does not have regular bulletins on weekends, the Field Day message will be sent according to the schedule included with this announcement. The W1AW bulletins will be transmitted on the regular W1AW frequencies listed in *QST*. The PSK31 bulletin will be transmitted on the W1AW teleprinter frequencies. The special Field Day bulletin will be transmitted from station K6KPH on the West Coast as included in the bulletin schedule.

9.2. Decisions of the ARRL Awards Committee are final in adjudicating Field Day problems.

9.3. **The complete Field Day information package may be obtained via download from the Field Day home page at: www.arrl.org/field-day**

9.4. For more Field Day information/questions contact: fdinfo@arrl.org or phone (860) 594-0232.



Recommended Field Day Frequencies FAQ

HF: All operations are recommended to stay within the General class operator privileges on the 160-15 Meter HF Bands (excluding 60, 30, 17 and 12 meters), or beginning at 28.300 MHz on 10 Meters to include Technician voice privileges.

VHF+: All frequencies are open to Technician or higher class licensees.

Digital: Remember that Technician's cannot be control operator on Digital Modes below 10 Meters. Recommended FT8 and FT4 subbands follow:

FT-8 Recommended Subbands (these are not the default subbands that WSJT defaults to on for each band, but are the frequency subbands used in the ARRL Digital Contest):

1.840-1.844
3.590-3.600 (No Digital above 3600)
7.090-7.100
14.090-14.100
21.090-21.100
28.090-28.100
50.340 to 50.350

When choosing your operating frequency, set the radio dial at the bottom of the sub-band and QSO with stations on audio frequencies within the radio passband typically 2.5-4 kHz wide. If a sub-band becomes crowded, move the radio dial frequency up in 2 kHz increments, as needed. (For example: 7,090, 7.092, 7.094, 7.096 and 7.098). All contest queries should be directed to contests@arrl.org

FT-4 Recommended Sub-bands:

1.836-1.840
3.580-3.590
7.080-7.090
14.080-14.090
21.080-21.090
28.080-28.090
50.330 to 50.340 When choosing your operating frequency, set the radio dial at the bottom of the sub-band and QSO with stations on audio frequencies within the radio passband, typically 2.5-4 kHz wide. If a sub-band becomes crowded, move the radio dial frequency up in 2 kHz increments, as needed. (For example: 7.080, 7.082, 7.084, 7.086 and 7.088).



Aggregate Club Scoring FAQ

Below are some frequently asked questions regarding the submission of individual scores to be counted towards a club's aggregate score.

[Contact](#) the ARRL Contest Program with any questions that are not covered in this FAQ.

Q: Several of our club members are going to operate independently and wish to attribute their scores to the aggregate club score. What call sign should they use?

A: Participants should use their own call signs. Except for Class C (mobile) entries, all transmitters, receivers, and antennas must be located within a 1,000-foot-diameter circle to be able to operate using a single call sign. This prohibits the use of a single call sign from more than one location. Those participants operating from home or locations not at the club's Field Day site must use their own station call signs. Multiple stations operating with a club call sign or modified club call sign, such as W1AW-1, W1AW-2, W1AW-3, etc, are not allowed.

Q: How does my club submit an aggregate club score? Does the club need to add up each participating member's scores and submit a club entry with the aggregate score under the club call sign?

A: Each participant will submit their independent entry under their own call sign (NOT the call sign the club is using.) ARRL will calculate the aggregate score based upon the club name entered on the official Field Day [entry form via the web applet](#) (preferred method) or on the paper Field Day entry form. In order for results to be tabulated correctly, all club participants must enter the club's official name exactly the same, avoiding abbreviations or acronyms. This is important!

Q: Our group is still planning to operate at the usual Field Day site, but some members will be operating from their home stations, or from other locations. Can we still submit an entry using the club call sign, as well as have members operating using their own call signs?

A: Yes. If your club is hosting a group Field Day effort, it will submit an entry as usual, using the club call sign. Club members operating at other locations will submit separate entries with their own call signs and will enter the club name on the entry form for club aggregate scoring.

Q: Can a club member operate from home using the club call sign?

A: Yes, but the call sign may only be used in one location. The member must receive permission from the trustee of the club call sign.

Q: Our club normally enters Field Day in Class A. If we operate from our home stations, in which class should individual members enter in order to be included in the aggregate club score?

A: Each member will operate independently and will submit the entry using whatever class that applies to their operation. Typically, home stations running on commercial AC power are Class D, while home stations running on battery, solar, generator, or the like (i.e., not from AC mains) are Class E. When the results are published, each club member will be listed in the results under the class in which they operated. Aggregate club scores for clubs with 3 or more entries for the same club will be listed by the club name in a separate listing.

Q: Our club will have 10 members operating from home as Class D stations. Should they worry about working the same station on the same band and mode (duplicates)?

A: Because members are operating as separate entries using their own call signs, the contacts are not considered duplicates.

Q: Does the club need to be an ARRL-affiliated club to participate in Field Day?

A: No. All clubs and groups are welcome to participate in ARRL Field Day.

Q: How will bonus points be calculated for the aggregate club scores? Can individual club members still earn bonus points?

A: All individual scores, including bonus points, will be added together to determine the aggregate club score. Refer to the [complete rules](#) to determine eligibility for bonus points.



Who's in Control of Your Field Day Station?

The ARRL is always answering questions about FCC rules as they apply to Field Day. Of course, every station must have a control operator (97.103). On Field Day, you often operate using someone else's callsign, or a club callsign. The station licensee or club call trustee is ultimately responsible for all transmissions from their station. During Field Day, many amateurs often use a single call sign, so the station licensee must designate a control operator(s) who is responsible for the operation of that station when the licensee is not in direct control. **Both the station licensee and the control operator are equally responsible for all transmissions** (97.103(a) and (b)). When the station licensee designates others as control operators, they should make a note in the log. You are no longer required to carry a photocopy of your license whenever you are the control operator of a station, but it's still a good idea. **A third-party is defined as anyone who does not have operating privileges on the frequency and mode being used.**

Q. Are there any exceptions to the FCC rules for Field Day?

A. No, FCC Part 97 rules apply 24/7 every day of the year – no exceptions.

Q. The trustee of our club callsign is an Extra. Does this mean our station can operate on any frequency?

A. No. Many people mistakenly believe that a club callsign automatically carries the operating privileges of the callsign trustee. That is not true. **A club callsign comes from a station license and carries no operating privileges. A station may only operate according to the privileges of the Control Operator at the control point for that station.** Example, if a control operator is a General, that transmitter may only operate using General class privileges.

Q. My call is being used for Field Day, but I can't be at the station for the duration of the contest. (I like sleeping in my air-conditioned house, even during Field Day.) Do we have to take the transmitter off the air when I am not present?

A. No, you may designate a control operator or operators who should fulfill your duties as the station licensee. In fact, you don't have to be there at all, but you are responsible for making sure that the appointed control operator(s) is capable of carrying out your wishes (97.103(b) and 97.105). After all, if there is a problem the FCC is going to contact you as the licensee or trustee of a club call.

Q. Can KB1ZDZ, a General class licensee, operate at the station of N1ND, an Extra Class licensee, during Field Day? Can he operate in the Extra Class segment even though he only holds a General class license?

A. The answer to the first question is "yes" – he may operate using his license privileges from N1ND's station. However if he wishes to participate on frequencies other than those his license allows, there must be a control operator with privileges for the desired operating frequencies continuously monitoring and supervising the operation at the control point of the transmitter. FCC rules state that **"A control operator must ensure the immediate proper operation of the station."** (97.105(a)). The rules go on to say, "A station may only be operated in the manner and to the extent permitted by the privileges authorized for the class of operator license held by the control operator" (97.105(b)).

Q. I am an Extra Class licensee, but I am going to use a Technician class operator's station and call sign during Field Day. Can I legally operate her station and use her call outside the Technician subbands?

A. You, the Extra, can be designated as the control operator. If you are authorized by the licensee, you may use the call sign of the Technician class licensee and operate within the Technician class privileges. However, if an Extra Class control operator wants to operate outside the Technician class operator privileges, they may do so, but must identify by appending their call to that of the Technician, such as signing "KB1ZDZ / N1ND" on CW or separating the calls by the word "stroke" on Phone (97.105(a) and (b), 97.119(d)). True, this is a long identification procedure, but it is the only way to identify in this case. Why would an Extra want to use a Technician call? Well, that may not always be the case, but it clearly illustrates the point.

Q. What is the identification procedure for a club station license during Field Day?

A. A club *station* license carries *no operator privileges*. The person designated as control operator for the station must use his or her own privileges. If operation takes place in the Extra class part of the band, there must be an Extra class control operator present at the control point monitoring and supervising the operation. This does not necessitate the use of the supplementary station ID as mentioned in Section 97.119(e).

Q. During Field Day, members of the public wander through as we operate. Many times, these unlicensed individuals want to operate. Can they legally operate our Field Day station?

A. Only a licensed amateur is eligible to be the control operator, and obviously an unlicensed person can't be the control operator of an amateur station. So, an unlicensed person cannot legally *operate* the Field Day station. However **they may *participate* under the immediate supervision and direction of a control operator present at the control point.** Third parties may only communicate directly with other US stations or with countries with which the US has signed third-party agreements (97.115(a) and (b)). **Part 97 rules are always in effect.** There is no "special exception" for Field Day. It is the hope of the ARRL that everyone will do lots of operating during Field Day, demonstrate Amateur Radio to the public, practice our emergency communications capabilities, eat lots of good Field Day cooking and most of all, have a good time while doing it. However, it all must take place in the context of the FCC rules.

Q. During Field Day, there may be DX stations on the air. May they be worked?

A. In most cases, yes. However, if a person is participating as a third party under the supervision of a control operator, there must be a third-party agreement between the DX country's government and the US. The complete list of countries with which the US has Third Party agreements may be found at: www.arrl.org/third-party-operating-agreements

Q. We will be using a special 1 by 1 callsign for Field Day. Is there anything special we must do?

A. Yes, at least once per hour each station using the special call must also ID with the FCC-issued station call. (97.119(d)). For more information on 1x1 callsigns see www.1x1callsigns.org/

GOTA Scoring FAQ



Individual operators of a GOTA station can earn points as follows:

- The individual operator of a GOTA station earns 5 GOTA Bonus points for any QSO made from the GOTA Station, regardless of the mode (CW, Phone, or Digital.)
- The QSOs made at the GOTA station will also count toward the total QSO points, but those QSOs will be scored the same as all other QSOs made by the primary Field Day operation.
- There is no limit to the number of QSOs that a GOTA operator can make.
- If the GOTA station is supervised by a designated GOTA Coach for at least 10 QSOs, a single 100-point GOTA Coach Bonus will be earned.

Q. Do you have to be a licensed amateur to operate the GOTA station?

A. An unlicensed person may never operate an amateur station. As per the FCC rules, they may *participate* by operating the station, but there must always be a licensee at the control point of the GOTA station with an operator's license class that allows them to use the band and mode being used.

Q: What is the maximum number of QSOs that may be completed and claimed by operators of the GOTA station?

A: There is no maximum number of QSOs that can be made by operators of the GOTA station.

Q: How do you earn GOTA bonus points?

A: As stated above, any QSOs made by operators at the GOTA station are worth 5 GOTA Bonus points, regardless of the mode (CW, Phone, or Digital) used. The 5 points per QSO only applies to GOTA Bonus points, and not to the Total QSO points.

Q: How do we claim the GOTA Bonus?

A: First, mark the appropriate area in Item 15 on the Summary Sheet. Then in Item 19 on the Summary Sheet, you must list the name and/or callsign of each operator of the GOTA station and the number of QSOs completed by that operator. Total up the number of GOTA QSOs made on each mode and transfer those totals to the GOTA line in Item 18. Enter the total number of all GOTA QSOs in Item 19 and multiply by 5 and enter in Total GOTA QSO Bonus points. If claiming the GOTA Coach Bonus, check the box and add 100 points to the total GOTA QSO Bonus points. Then transfer the Total GOTA Bonus Points to Item 15 of the summary sheet. If you do not complete Item 19, the GOTA bonus may be disallowed.

Q: How is the GOTA Coach Bonus calculated?

A: A single 100-point bonus can be earned by having a designated GOTA Coach present for at least 10 QSOs made from the GOTA Station. The GOTA Coach must be present and actively coaching the operator of the GOTA station to qualify for this bonus. If claiming the 100- point GOTA Coach Bonus, check the box below Item 19 on the summary sheet.

Q: Do we still earn QSO points for contacts made at the GOTA station?

A Yes, but those QSOs will be scored the same as all other QSOs made by the primary Field Day operation and must be entered in the Band/Mode QSO breakdown in Item 18 as GOTA QSOs.



ARRL Field Day Site Responsibilities Checklist (for Class B, C, D, E and F)

To qualify for the 50-point bonus (for Class B, C, D/E and F stations), such designated person(s) shall be present at the site from the beginning of set-up until the end of break-down and are required to complete this certification for this 50-point bonus.

This form is NOT intended to be all inclusive.

The designated person(s) certifies by submitting this form that due diligence was made to provide a well-organized and safe operation.

[check box (or circle) any/all that apply (better than half of all these criteria are expected to be met to achieve this bonus – at a minimum, all bold items are expected to be checked to achieve this bonus)]

- Organizer(s) and/or safety representative(s) were on site for the duration of the event.**
- Fuel for generator (if applicable) properly stored.
- Fire extinguisher on hand and appropriately located.**
- First Aid kit on hand.**
- Access to NWS alerts to monitor for inclement weather.
- Tent (if used) stakes properly installed and marked.
- Temporary antenna structures (if used) properly secured and marked.
- Site secured from tripping hazards (coax cables, extension cords, etc.)
- Site is set up in a neat and orderly manner.**
- Stations and equipment properly grounded.**
- Access to a means to contact police/fire/rescue (if needed) is available.**
- Individual designated as a point of contact for visitors (ie, greeting the public or served-agency officials, providing verbal or written information about amateur radio).
- Monitoring participants/visitors for hydration and ensuring an adequate water supply (bottled water) is available.**

signature(s) / call(s)

date



ARRL Field Day Safety Officer Checklist

To qualify for the 100-point Safety Officer bonus (for Class A stations), a group must appoint a qualified person/s who are present at their site from the beginning of set-up until the end of break-down.

This form is NOT intended to be all inclusive.

The Safety Officer/s certify by submitting this form that due diligence was made to provide a safe operation.

[check (or circle) any/all that apply]

- Safety Officer/s or qualified designated assistant/s was on site for the duration of the event.
- Fuel for generator properly stored.
- Fire extinguisher on hand and appropriately located.
- First Aid kit on hand.
- First Aid - CPR - AED versed else trained participant/s on site for full Field Day period.
- Access to NWS alerts to monitor for inclement weather.
- Tent stakes properly installed and marked.
- Temporary antenna structures properly secured and marked.
- Site secured from tripping hazards.
- Site is set up in a neat and orderly manner to reduce hazards.
- Stations and equipment properly grounded.
- Access to a means to contact police/fire/rescue if needed.
- Safety Officer is designated point of contact for public safety officials.
- Minimize risks and control hazards to ensure no injuries to public.
- As necessary, monitoring participants for hydration and ensuring an adequate water supply is available.

signature(s) / call(s)

date



ARRL Field Day Overview – The Big Picture

Question: What is the most popular amateur radio event in the US and Canada?

Answer: ARRL Field Day

During the **fourth full weekend in June**, the eyes of the amateur radio community turn towards the annual Field Day operating event. From its beginning back in the 1930's as an event to test the field preparedness and emergency communications abilities of the burgeoning amateur radio community, Field Day has evolved into the largest on-the-air operation during the year. In 2025, entries were submitted by over **4,373 clubs, groups and individuals from across the US and Canada**. These entries showed participation by nearly 32,000 individuals and over 1.2 million contacts were reported during the brief 24-hours of the event.

Field Day is officially an 'operating event,' not a contest. The purpose remains today as it did in the beginning: **to demonstrate the communications ability of the amateur radio community in simulated emergency situations.** Groups across the continent use Field Day as a literal "show and tell" exhibition. At sites from the tundra of Alaska to the sandy beaches of Puerto Rico, amateur radio brings together its resources to show officials in government and various agencies what "amateur radio can do."

Many clubs use ARRL Field Day as the focus of their annual calendar. Many hams that are not otherwise interested in contesting or DXing find themselves meeting various challenges to help their club run a successful Field Day operation. It is the thrill of the **"non-contest contest"** that brings out the best in thousands of amateurs who under most circumstances choose not to otherwise participate in the various sponsored contests throughout the year.

What makes a good Field Day? Ask that question at any hamfest and you will probably receive a different answer from each person you interview. We offer a few basic ideas to keep in mind as you contemplate a Field Day operation. First, and foremost, **Field Day should be a fun activity.** Field Day serves as one of the biggest introductory "drawing cards" we offer in trying to expand interest in our hobby. A Field Day that is technical in set-up may well produce a good score. But remember that a Field Day that practices the **"KISS" principle (Keep It Simple, Silly)** is more likely to attract interest and participation than one which is run like a hard-core contest operation.

This doesn't mean you shouldn't do the technical planning and preparation to ensure the operation is a good demonstration of what hams can do. It does mean that you should consider incorporating a wide-range of activities and "jobs" which will encourage participation. Yes, 40-meter CW will probably be a great way to rack up points. ***But make certain that there are things for the non-CW inclined members of your group to do.*** Standing around watching one or two operators make all the contacts is a sure-fire way to kill enthusiasm among your group.

For example, several years ago our local club put up its highest Field Day score ever. We had first-class stations and used outstanding operators on the "prime bands." They put in 18-20 hours of hard-core contest-style activity. The next year our club score fell approximately in half. But the number of people who actually made a contact using the club call went from eight to thirty-six. Both years described above offered a successful result

(one on points, the other on participation). Is success measured as **The Journey**, or **The Destination**? Only your group knows for sure.

This brings us to the second major point: **a successful Field Day is well planned.**

Planning entails a wide range of things when it comes to Field Day. But they all start at a commonsense point: **set realistic goals for your group.** Plan your operation to bring out the best in your club members. If your club is primarily comprised of non-code operators, then set goals which allow their interests to be highlighted. If your club has lots of experience in various modes and operating conditions, plan a more challenging test for your group. **For example, the latest digital modes (including FT8) are allowing beginner operators and small stations the ability to enjoy the hobby in ways never before envisioned.**

While many people will be important to your Field Day operation, the key person during the entire experience – from selection of the site to the submission of the score – will be **the Field Day Chairperson or Coordinator.** This person needs to be a good organizer with the ability to delegate responsibility. The responsibilities are many: site selection, securing “band captains” for each transmitter/station, how to best utilize the operating site, helping solicit operators, equipment, computers, generators, assisting in public relations/outreach, safety issues, training operator, education and much more. The Field Day Chairperson needs a good working relationship with the club membership and officers. It’s also helpful if they have some previous Field Day experience. Many clubs use an experienced Field Day Chairperson along with an assistant chairperson who is in “training” to assume the job down the road. Cross training leaders from year to year is essential to maintain continuity when the “regular chairpersons” have other commitments.

How you organize your group for Field Day will depend on the number of participants and size of the operation you plan. **One helpful hint is to appoint an individual to head up each station /mode/ band.** These “band captains” should be responsible for planning their individual station, working in conjunction with the Field Day Chairperson and the other stations planned. Band captains shouldn’t be expected to do it all, so make certain each has plenty of help for set-up, operating and taking down the site.

There are two criteria that determine your Transmitter class. First, you must be able to transmit a signal on the total number of band/modes that you claim **simultaneously.** For example, if you claim 10A, you must be able to transmit 10 different signals at the same time (remember that a band/mode counts as a separate band). Changing the band-switch to another band does not count as a “different signal.” If you are claiming 10 transmitters, you need 10 stations capable of operating at the same time – remember operating means sending AND receiving. Second, you must actually have them on the air **simultaneously** at least once during the event.

Many Field Day participants post their location on the **Field Day Station Locator** application on the web. To add your station to the map, have someone from your club or group log on to the ARRL web at www.arrl.org/field-day-locator and click on the “Add A Station” link to input the required data. You can also visit the same site to search for Field Day locations in your area. **There is no individual preregistration required to participate, and clubs are not required to register** their information, but the locator tool is an excellent way to help new or visiting amateurs in your area to find where they can come join in on the Field Day fun!

As you plan Field Day, don’t overlook the wide range of bonus points that are available. **Since 2005, all entry classes are eligible for some type of bonus points.** Check the rules to see which bonus points you can earn!

If you are operating in a category that requires emergency power, you may receive a **100-point per transmitter (up to 20 transmitters)** bonus if your entire operation is emergency powered. If you use commercial power for some of the equipment, sorry, you don’t qualify for the emergency power bonus. **GOTA and the free VHF station are not eligible for this bonus.** And all entries must operate at least one transmitter to be classified in the event (no zero-A entries).

Are you operating in a **public place** (mall parking lot, a local park, in front of the fire department)? Don't forget the **100-point bonus**. Add in a table, some amateur radio informational handouts, and some volunteers answering questions for visitors, and you have another **100 points for an Information Booth**.

Sometimes there is confusion as to the bonus for media publicity. Invite the local media outlets (television, radio, and newspapers) to your event. Your group can qualify for the 100-point media bonus **if the media actually covers your Field Day event**. This is a change from previous years rules. **And don't overlook the 100-point Social Media bonus for actively engaging on at least one of the standard social media platforms – Facebook, Twitter (#ARRLFD), Instagram (for example). It's another way to reach the community at large in today's media age.**

Educating the state and local government officials, and representatives of agencies, with which you may work in an emergency is part of the Field Day goal. **You may claim a 100-point bonus if an elected or appointed local or state governmental official visits your site as a direct result of your invitation. A second 100-point bonus may be earned if a representative of one of the agencies which we serve (such as American Red Cross or Salvation Army) visits your site as a result of a direct invitation from your group.** Two things are required to earn this bonus: you must **formally invite** officials to visit the operation **and one (or more) of them must visit**. Maximum bonus is 100 points per category (100 for an elected official and 100 for an agency official – not 100 points per official). **ARRL/ARES officials do not qualify your group for this bonus.**

Part of any real emergency will be handling formal traffic for the agencies we serve. Field Day incorporates this into the exercise in two ways. First, 100 points are earned by **sending a formal message from the club to your ARRL Section Manager or Section Emergency Coordinator**. The message must be originated during the Field Day period. Why not have one of your club's experienced traffic-handlers work with someone just learning how to handle traffic involved in this part of Field Day

You should also be ready to garner points **for originating, relaying, or receiving and delivering formal messages** during the Field Day operation. You can gain **up to 100 points (10 points each for up to 10 messages)** as well as incorporating another segment of your club into the operation. **You can't double dip – so don't include the ARRL SM/SEC message as one of these messages, since it already receives a separate bonus.**

During any actual wide-scale emergency, W1AW will broadcast situation bulletins during the duration of the event. To allow groups to practice using this source of information, a 100-point bonus is awarded **for copying the special W1AW Field Day bulletin. You must copy this special bulletin over the air during the Field Day period.** It won't be sent out as an email or posted to an ARRL web page. It takes some planning on how to accomplish this at your Field Day site, but it is another available bonus category. The W1AW schedule is found in this packet with the rules. **The same Field Day bulletin will be transmitted on the West Coast from K6KPH** (schedule included with the W1AW schedule).

Groups for many years have used alternative power sources rather than commercial or petroleum-derivative powered generators to run part of their Field Day operation. To encourage this, an easy **100-point bonus** may be earned **by making at least five QSOs using a "natural power" source**. Solar, wind, water power, methane or grain alcohol all qualify here. (Sorry, dry cell batteries are not considered alternative power).

Field Day is a time of experimentation and demonstration for many hams. Two rules encourage groups and individuals to broaden their scope during the weekend. If you **complete at least one QSO via one of the amateur satellites**, you earn a 100-point bonus. **The contact must be directly through the satellite between the two earth bound amateur stations, not relayed through a system that uses a satellite uplink system.** A dedicated satellite station does not count as an additional transmitter towards your group's total. **The total bonus is 100 points** – not 100 points for each satellite that you contact. **You are allowed only one QSO on any single channel FM satellite.** A QSO with the ISS does not qualify for the bonus since it is not an Earth-to-Earth contact. However, if the astronauts on the ISS participate in Field Day (as they have during the past few years) I bet the excitement of that contact energizes your whole Field Day operation, and this QSO (groups are lucky to contact them once, if at all) can be counted in your total QSOs for the mode used.

An easy bonus to earn is the **Educational Activity Bonus**. Eligible groups will receive a 100-point bonus for having a **formal educational component** associated with Field Day. It doesn't have to be a formal "classroom" session per se, but it must be a **structured activity** to broaden the knowledge base of participants. Some groups may decide to have a hands-on activity of teaching people the proper way to solder coax connectors while another group may decide to teach about proper grounding techniques and electrical safety. Other groups have had a visiting agency, like the American Red Cross, offer abbreviated First Aid or AED Training. This activity can be broad enough to allow people to learn how to do something new but should have active involvement of participants. **It must be more than a simple demonstration of an activity.** Standing around watching someone send CW won't qualify. But teaching people how to make digital QSOs, and then letting them try their hand at it would. Maybe bring along some supplies to build a 2-meter J-pole or 15-meter dipole that participants can take home with them! **Be creative but keep in mind, this must be more than a passive activity to watch or a static display to read. See the FAQ on this bonus in the FD packet.**

If your Field Day group is operating in the **Class A or F** category, and are at least a two-transmitter entry, you have two more ways of adding operating excitement to your event. Groups at **2A or 2F** (or higher) may add a dedicated **GET ON THE AIR station (GOTA) that uses a call sign that is different from the primary station call.** This station may be **operated by newly licensed amateurs and other generally inactive licensees.** Non-licensed individuals may participate in this station, but only under the direct supervision of a properly licensed control operator. **It may be operated on any Field Day band (HF or VHF) or mode, provided it is under the direct supervision of a control operator that has license privileges that includes that band and mode.** The complete guidelines are found in Field Day Rule 4.1.1. as well as in two FAQs in this packet.

There is no limit to the number of QSOs made from the GOTA station. Each QSO made by an operator at the GOTA station is worth 5 GOTA Bonus Points, regardless of the mode (CW, Digital or Phone) used. The GOTA QSOs also count toward QSO totals made by the primary Field Day station. The calculation for the GOTA Coach bonus has also been simplified as detailed below.

If there is an **experienced mentor/coach supervising at least 10 contacts made at the GOTA station, a single 100-point bonus will be earned.** There are a couple of guidelines. **The coach must supervise at least 10 contacts to earn the bonus points.** Also, **the mentor/coach may only advise GOTA operators, but is not allowed to make the QSOs or perform functions such as logging.** They can talk the operator through the contacts but can't make the QSOs for them. Remember that the **GOTA station does not count as an additional transmitter** when calculating your operating class for Field Day and is not used in determining the number of transmitters for that bonus. It also does not affect your dedicated VHF/UHF station if operating at class 2A or higher. The GOTA station gives out the same exchange as its parent station but **MUST** use a unique call sign.

For those in your club who are more VHF/UHF-oriented, any group operating as a **Class A (regardless of the number of transmitters) may also include one dedicated VHF/UHF station.** This will allow those licensees to participate fully on their favorite amateur bands above 50 MHz. **This dedicated VHF/UHF station does not count as an additional transmitter towards your group's total and does not qualify for the 100 points per transmitter bonus.** Your group may operate more than one VHF/UHF station during the event. If you do, the first VHF/UHF transmitter does not count towards your transmitter total, but the rest do count to increase your operating classification.

Getting youth involved in amateur radio is always important. Beginning in 2005, we added a new 100-point maximum bonus known as **the Youth Element bonus. For all Classes except B, you earn 20-points for each person (age 18 or younger) who completes at least one QSO. Class B may earn either a 20 (one person operation) or 40-point bonus (2-person operation) if their operators are age 18 or younger.**

Finally, groups participating as Class A may earn an additional 100-point bonus by having an active Safety Officer as part of their operation. The Safety Officer must certify that a series of safety concerns were addressed and maintained during the Field Day operation. Information on this is found elsewhere in this packet.

After your successful Field Day operation, what happens next? Submitting the required paperwork on time is an absolute must. **Submit your entry** to ARRL within **30 days of the end of the event**. For 2025 the submission deadline is **midnight Tuesday July 29**. Your entry begins with a **completely and accurately filled out Summary Sheet** which shows all the required information. Be careful: many of the commercial logging programs provide some basic information on your summary sheet but leave some important things out. Your best bet is to use an official Summary Sheet. **All paper entries are required to use a completed Summary Sheet. Make certain you use the most current Summary Sheet from the ARRL, since there may have been changes that affect scoring. Make certain you complete all parts of the Summary Sheet.** Without your supplying us complete, accurate information, we can't print the results accurately.

Consider making your submission via the **ARRL Field Day web app** that is found at field-day.arrl.org. At this site you can submit your summary sheet information **and bonus evidence documents** directly to the ARRL and it will show receipt of the information within about 24 hours on the ARRL Web. **There it is a 50-point bonus to submit using this web app.** Also, we cannot accept only a Cabrillo format file as your Field Day entry. **While it contains the QSO data, the header does not include everything necessary to completely and accurately report your entry. *A Cabrillo-file must either include a completed official Summary Sheet by mail or the entrant must submit the required Summary data at the field-day.arrl.org website required attachments uploaded to the web app***

The logging requirements for Field Day are different from ARRL contests. Instead of standard log files, you are only required to submit a **Dupe Sheet, separated by band and mode**. For Field Day, paper copies of the dupe sheets are acceptable. Keep your logs available, however, in case we need to request you to submit them at a later time for clarification.

The final part of your submission includes the **various “proofs” of your bonus points claimed**. Some of these are easy. Log sheets noted with the specific QSOs made using natural power or your satellite contacts are sufficient for that bonus. A written statement verifying your location in a public place and a copy of your visitor's log will be fine for claiming those points. **Send in copies of any newspaper or media coverage you actually receive**. This is a change from previous years, where only an attempt to receive media coverage was required. **And send in your photographs (include a [Photo Release](#) if youth aged 18 or younger are in the photos). Be creative with your photography.** Sending in a picture of someone in a baseball cap pouring gas into a generator may be proof of use of emergency power, but probably won't be used in the *QST* write-up. Creative photos of operators, interesting station set-ups, **participation by young people ([with release](#))** and such are more likely to catch the eyes of *QST* editors.

An excellent way to share your group's Field Day story is via the Online Soapbox on the ARRL Web. Log on to <http://field-day.arrl.org/fdsoapbox.php>. From that site, you may upload a narrative of your group's Field Day operation as well as photographs. Once these are proofed at ARRL Headquarters, they are posted to the web for thousands to share. In 2024 we had hundreds of Field Day Soapbox entries!

The rules require a couple of specific proofs for some of the bonus points. You need to submit a copy of the fully serviced National Traffic System message sent to your Section Manager or Section Emergency Coordinator as well as any messages relayed from your site. You also need to submit a complete copy of the special Field Day message in your submission. If you submit electronically you must upload these proofs as attachments to your web app submission (pdf scans or jpg photos preferred).

Here's a couple of hints that might help you make your event even more successful and might come in handy. Remember: that while one of the purposes of the event is to have fun, you need to practice safety as well. Having a safety officer for the site is a good idea (and give you bonus points). Make certain antennas are away from power lines. Generators should be **grounded properly** and operated carefully (for more information on grounding see <http://www.arrl.org/electrical-safety>). Guy wires for temporary structures or towers need to be well marked. The safety officer needs to work closely with the Field Day Chairperson to ensure everyone has a safe, as well as fun time.

After reviewing the rules and this packet, if you have questions about Field Day, drop an email to fieldday@arrl.org or phone (860) 594-0232 and we will be happy to help you. Field Day is the most popular amateur radio operating event in the US and Canada. Please contact the ARRL Contest Program if we can assist you in some way to help ensure your Field Day operation this year is the best ever!

4/2026



Social Media and ARRL Field Day

Social media plays an increasingly important role in how the world communicates, so it's important we use these tools to communicate what ham radio is up to during our largest on-air event of the season. Help promote Amateur Radio and your club or group to the general public; you'll find it very rewarding, in many ways.

Promoting your club's Field Day effort just got even more rewarding! Using social media such as Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, LinkedIn, and YouTube can earn you a quick 100 points toward your Field Day score.

You can use social media to announce your Field Day site, invite the public, interact with elected officials or your local served agencies, post photos or videos of activities, blog about the Saturday night potluck, and much more.

To qualify for this bonus, you must be using this contact method frequently during your Field Day operation. Simply posting a single tweet on Twitter (something like "come join our Field Day event") does not qualify. The intent is to have an ongoing, active presence on your chosen social media platform/s during your entire operation. For example, use the hashtag #ARRLFD and tag ARRL's social media platforms when posting about your event.

Follow us!

Facebook: [ARRL Field Day \(Annual Event\)](#), [@ARRL.org](#), [@ARRLOTA](#)

Twitter: [@arrl](#), [@w1aw](#), [@arrl_ares](#)

Instagram: [@arrlhq](#)

LinkedIn: [ARRL, the national association for Amateur Radio](#)

YouTube: [ARRLHQ](#)

Note that this bonus only applies to recognized social media. Simply having something on your club's website about Field Day doesn't qualify.

For more information on utilizing social media for ARRL Field Day, please visit the Field Day web page at [field-day.arrl.org](#)



ARRL Field Day Site Locator

To help your club or group “spread the word” about its 2026 Field Day operations, the ARRL is pleased to offer its FIELD DAY Site Locator.

If you are a club wishing to post your information:

Have a designated club official visit the online site at

www.arrl.org/field-day-locator

Enter the location and club information (select “Add a station”). This will get your Field Day operation added to a Google Map tool, which will provide potential visitors with your club’s location and contact data.

If you are looking for a Field Day site to visit or join:

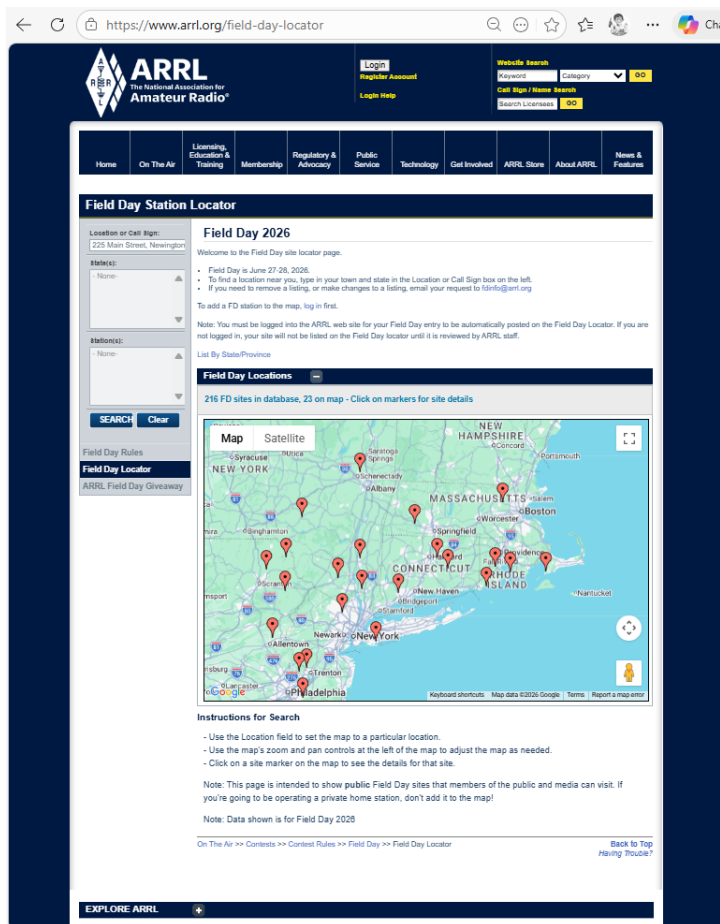
Visit the Field Day Locator site at

www.arrl.org/field-day-locator

and find listings by state.

Once you find an entry in your area, click on the name shown on the right and the information will pop into the information box as well as display as a “push pin” on the map screen.

(Example: Screenshot of Northeastern US locations as of April 22, 2026)





Field Day's Over... Now What?

Tips for Submitting Your Field Day Entry

The last QSO has been logged. The antennas and tents have come down. The site and generator and other equipment have been cleaned, and stored until needed again. So, now what do you do with all of the paper forms, logs and files created during your Field Day exercise?

Here is a guide to making sure your Field Day entry is correct and included in the results. **Remember that all Field Day entries must be submitted or postmarked by Tuesday July 28, 2026.**

To submit online or by mail – which is best for me?

The preferred way to send your information to the ARRL is to use the web application found at <http://field-day.arrl.org/fdentry.php>. This excellent web tool allows you to electronically submit your Summary Sheet **and all bonus documents** and other required information to the ARRL, getting your information directly and immediately into a database for inclusion.

And, you earn a 50 point bonus for submitting everything via the <http://field-day.arrl.org/fdentry.php> web app.

The web app form follows the information on the official ARRL Field Day Summary Sheet. Just fill in all the blanks and attach your supporting files. The web app will prompt you if there is invalid or incomplete information. Once that is done, just **click <SUBMIT ENTRY>** at the bottom of the form and your Field Day summary information will be on its way to the ARRL, with confirmation emailed back to you for your records. Again, **if you use the web app, you can attach everything there (dupe sheets, bonus documents, photos, etc).** **If you do not receive a confirmation number or confirmation email, your entry was not submitted.** If you require assistance with submitting an entry, email fieldday@arrl.org, or call 860-594-0232 and we will be happy to assist you.

If you decide to send the entry via the regular mail, there are a few items that you should pay special attention to:

- A) **You MUST include the required Field Day Summary Sheet. And please be sure that it is legible.** One of the greatest challenges of paper entries is that ARRL HQ staff is not able to read all information on the form.
- B) Make sure you **complete ALL information on the form.** Leaving certain information blank results in delaying the processing of your submission.
- C) **Verify ALL of the information submitted** before you mail the entry. For example, the [ARRL Section](#) should be the Section you transmitted as your exchange during Field Day (eg, W1AW 3F CONNECTICUT). Review of the information on your summary sheet helps to eliminate inputting bad data into the ARRL Field Day database.
- D) **Don't forget to include a printed copy of your REQUIRED dupe sheets (we also will accept the Cabrillo file printed out from a computer logging program, in lieu of the dupe sheet).**
- E) Make sure you **enclose verification of your claimed bonus points (Eg, Safety Officer certification, W1AW message copied over the air, visitor sign-in sheet, copy of the NTS message to the section manager or messages originated/relayed/delivered, youth bonus, educational bonus detail, media coverage evidence {including copy of the newspaper article}, etc.)**

Once your paper Field Day packet is assembled, mail it to: **Field Day Submission, ARRL, 225 Main St, Newington CT 06111** (consider using a method of mailing that gives you a tracking number to verify your documents were delivered to ARRL). **Entries must be postmarked by July 28, 2026.**

To confirm your web app log submission (or paper log submission – after a few giving us a few days to enter your paper summary) has been received, see the logs received page at field-day.arrl.org/fdentriessrvd.php



Field Day

Entries must be postmarked within 30 days of the end of the event and mailed to:

Field Day Entries
ARRL
225 Main St.
Newington, CT 06111 USA

Please write legibly. Make certain you have filled out this form completely and have enclosed any required dupe sheets, photographs and bonus claims.

1. Field Day Call Used _____ GOTA Station Call _____

2. Club or Group name _____

3. Number of Participants _____

4. Number of Transmitters in Simultaneous Operation _____

5. Entry Class: Check only one.

A. Club or non-club group portable

C. Mobile

B. 1- or 2-person non-club Group portable

D. Home station commercial power (100W max)

List call of 2nd operator: _____

E. Home station emergency power (100W max)

F. EOC Station

6. Power Source: Check all that apply

Generator Commercial mains Battery Solar Other (list) : _____

7. ARRL / RAC Section _____ (see <http://www.arrl.org/contest-sections-list> for a sections list)

8. Total CW QSOs _____ x 2 = Total CW QSO points _____

9. Total Digital QSOs _____ x 2 = Total Digital QSO points _____

10. Total Phone QSOs _____ x 1 = Total Phone QSO points _____

11. Power Multiplier (select only one)

5 watts or less and Battery powered = 5

6 – 100 watts = 2

101 – 500 watts = 1 (class A, B, or C only)

(Transfer number selected {1, 2, or 5} to line 13)

12. Total QSO points _____

13. Power Multiplier _____

14. Claimed QSO Score _____

(Line 12 x line 13 excluding bonus points)

15. Bonus points claimed: Check each block as appropriate and include required proof of points with your submission. All bonus points will be verified at ARRL HQ and added to your score.

100% Emergency power (Max. 20 transmitters)

Media Publicity

Set-up in Public Location

Information Booth

Message to ARRL SM/SEC

WIAW Field Day Message

NTS/ICS-213 messages handled (# _____)

Satellite QSO completed

Natural power QSOs completed

Site Visit by invited elected official

Site Visit by invited served agency official

Educational Activity Bonus

Youth Element achieved

GOTA Bonus (total GOTA bonus points: _____)

Submitted using the web app field-day.arrl.org

Safety Officer Bonus (Class A Only)

Site Responsibilities Bonus (Class B,C,D,E,F Only)

Social Media Bonus

Total Bonus Points Claimed: _____

16. Check here if your entry was also made online at:

field-day.arrl.org

17. I/We have observed all competition rules as well as all regulations for amateur radio in my/our country. My/Our report is correct and true to the best of my/our knowledge. I/We agree to be bound by the decisions of the ARRL Awards Committee.

Date: _____

Call: _____

Signature: _____
(signature/call of club president or authorized club representative)

Address: _____

Address: _____

E-mail Address: _____

18. Field Day Call Used: _____

	CW		Digital		Phone	
	QSO	POWER	QSO	POWER	QSO	Power
160 M						
80 M						
40 M						
20 M						
15 M						
10 M						
6 M						
2 M						
1.25 M						
70 CM						
Other						
Satellite						
GOTA						
TOTALS		CW		Digital		Phone
	Enter on Line 8 of Summary		Enter on Line 9 of Summary		Enter on Line 10 of Summary	

19. GOTA BONUS: List names/calls of GOTA operators and total number of QSOs completed by each:
(Use additional sheets if necessary)

Name	Call	CW QSOs	Pwr (W)	Digital QSOs	Pwr (W)	Phone QSOs	Pwr (W)
Totals (enter on GOTA line in Item 18 above)							

Total number of GOTA QSOs: _____ x 5 = Total GOTA QSO Bonus Points: _____

Check if claiming GOTA Coach bonus (100 Points) Total GOTA Bonus Points: _____
(Add total GOTA QSO Bonus Points and GOTA Coach Bonus Points to determine total GOTA Bonus points and enter on the line at right. Transfer to GOTA Bonus in Item 15)

20. Did your Field Day Group claim the Youth Element Bonus: Yes No

If so, how many participants 18 or younger completed at least one QSO? _____

Total number of attendees in group age 18 or younger _____

Field Day Entry Submission Instructions:

Please make certain that your required summary sheet is complete with the following fields filled in:

1. **Field Day Call Used:** The callsign used by your club/group/entry. If your group used a GOTA station please list that unique callsign in the space provided.
2. **Club or Group Name:** The name of the Club or Group to which you'd like your score attributed to.
3. **Number of Participants:** Give the number of persons who participated in your Field Day operation. Include operators, loggers, set-up crew, and visitors.
4. **Number of Transmitters in Simultaneous Operation:** The maximum number of transmitters that were transmitting at a given moment (if the count varied during the event, list the highest number achieved).
5. **Entry Class:** Refer to the Field Day rules for definitions.
6. **Check all power sources used:** If you used more than one source, check all that apply.
7. **Your ARRL / RAC section:** This is usually your State or Province, but if you live in one of the 8 US states that have multiple ARRL sections (California, Florida, Massachusetts, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, Texas and Washington) refer to the ARRL section list. DX stations use the term "DX".
8. **Total number of CW QSOs:** In the first blank list the number of raw non-dupe CW QSOs. Multiply the CW QSO total by 2 and enter the CW QSO point total in the second blank. Do not add the power multiplier in this field.
9. **Total number of Digital QSOs:** On the first blank list the number of raw non-dupe Digital QSOs. Multiply the Digital QSO total by 2 and enter the QSO point total in the second blank. Do not add the power multiplier in this field.
10. **Total number of Phone QSOs:** In the first blank list the number of raw non-dupe Phone QSOs. Multiply the Phone QSO total by 1 and enter the Phone QSO point total in the second blank. Do not add the power multiplier in this field.
11. **Power Multiplier:** Select the category that corresponds with your power multiplier. **(Remember that to use the multiplier of 5, you must be using 5 watts or less AND running battery or solar power.)**
12. **Total QSO Points:** Add the CW, Digital and Phone QSO points and enter here.
13. **Enter the power multiplier** from Item 11 onto this line.
14. **Multiply line 12 times line 13 to calculate your claimed score**, exclusive of bonus points.
15. **Bonus Points Claimed:** All categories now qualify for certain bonus points. Check each box for which you are claiming the earned Field Day bonus points. **You must submit proof of all bonus points claimed or they will be disallowed. Proof for each may be in the form of photographs, copies of press coverage received, marked log excerpts showing Satellite and Natural power QSOs. Submission of this form signed by a club or group official will suffice for the Emergency Power, Public Location, Information Table, Social Media and Site Visit bonuses. A signed Safety Officer Checklist or Site Responsibilities Checklist is required to claim those bonuses. You must provide serviced copies of any messages claimed for bonus credit. A copy of the W1AW bulletin must be included with the entry submission.**
 - A. If the Field Day operation was 100% emergency powered, you receive 100 points for each transmitter up to 20.
 - B. The Field Day message to the SM or SEC does not also qualify as a 10-point message bonus.
 - C. The Educational Bonus must involve some formal activity in order to qualify for the 100-Point bonus. A written lesson plan should be developed and submitted.
 - D. If you submitted your entry via the page at field-day.arrl.org you may claim an additional 50 bonus points.
 - E. Youth Element – you must fill in information for question 21 page 2 of the summary if you claim this bonus.
16. Check this space if you have also submitted the entry via the field-day.arrl.org web app.
17. A club officer, authorized club representative or individual must date, and sign the Summary Sheet. Please provide a mailing address and e-Mail address (if available) in case questions arise with the entry.
18. You must include a band and mode breakdown of QSOs on the 2nd page of the summary sheet form as directed. GOTA station contacts should be recorded in the GOTA Bonus section.
19. The list of GOTA station operators/participants must be shown, and the number of QSOs each made must be listed in order to claim the GOTA Bonus. Also, you must check the box if you are claiming the 100-point bonus for using a designated GOTA coach/mentor.
20. If your group claims the Youth Element bonus, give the number of youth participants (18 years old or younger) who completed a QSO and the total number of youth attendees.

After completing the Summary Sheet, please enclose it, as well as copies of Dupe Sheets (by band and mode), and all proofs of bonus points claimed and mail to:

ARRL 2026 Field Day Entry
225 Main Street
Newington, CT 06111

All Field Day entries with all attachments must be uploaded to field-day.arrl.org (preferred method), e-mailed to fieldday@arrl.org, or postmarked within 30 days after Field Day or they will be ineligible for inclusion in the Field Day results (if mailed, keep a copy of your proof of delivery/tracking#).



ARRL FIELD DAY PUBLIC RELATIONS KIT

FOR ARRL PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICERS & PUBLIC INFORMATION COORDINATORS

Thank you for supporting media attention for ARRL Field Day. We hope you find the enclosed resources are helpful as you prepare to promote Field Day participation in your area through local media, news, and social media outlets.

Contents

Earn Bonus Points for Your Field Day Public Relations Strategies

Publicity Tip Sheet

Field Day PR – Before, During, and After

ARRL Field Day Public Relations Calendar

ARRL Field Day Media Advisory (press release template)

ARRL Field Day Media Advisory for TV and Radio Stations

ARRL Field Day Talking Points for PIOs and PICs

What is ARRL Field Day (backgrounder)

Social Media and ARRL Field Day

Sample Field Day Invitation Letter

Sample Proclamation

ARRL and RAC Section check-off sheet; a great visual

Field Day logo (full page); additional versions available at www.arrl.org/FieldDay

Additional ARRL Field Day resources are available at www.arrl.org/FieldDay

Photo/Model Release Form (use for minors under 18 years of age)

<http://www.arrl.org/files/file/Model%20Release%20/ModelReleaseForm.pdf>

EARN BONUS POINTS FOR YOUR FIELD DAY PUBLIC RELATIONS STRATEGIES

ARRL Field Day is amateur radio's open house. It is a tremendous opportunity to show the public who we are and what assets we bring to our communities. That helps keep amateur radio visible, which is important to the long-term sustainability of our service and hobby. By the time your radio club is setting up the antennas, your PR and outreach strategy should have been in operation for quite some time. Experience has taught us that promoting your Field Day effort is a task that should be assigned to a specific person, just as you would have a person responsible for the generator or captain of a specific station. If your club has a Public Information Officer (PIO), this task is right up his or her alley. If you don't have one, find a club member who is articulate, outgoing, and comfortable talking with visitors to be your club's spokesperson. Depending on the size of your Field Day effort, it may be helpful to have additional public relations volunteers. In addition to the media, you should be reaching out to schools, churches, and other civic groups, such as scouts, 4-H, etc. and inviting them to come visit, learn, and discover. ARRL has given clubs a way to promote Field Day to your community and earn your club up to 600 additional points for your club's score.

1) Set up in a public location: Many clubs like to set up away from high-traffic areas, like a hilltop or a campground, but by setting up in a parking lot of a shopping mall or community center, you can increase amateur radio's visibility to your community. **Bonus: 100 points.**

2) Spread the word: Contact your local newspapers and TV and radio stations about your plans for Field Day. Your club's Public Information Officer (PIO) should have a list of media contacts in your area already developed. Having the media outlets (such as TV, radio and newspapers) cover your event helps make the public aware of your Field Day site and keeps amateur radio in the public eye. A sample press release, sample media advisory, and tips for press release success are included. **Bonus: 100 points.**

3) Don't forget social media! Keep your club's Facebook page active with updates, photos, and information on how your Field Day is going. Use Twitter to tweet your experiences to your followers and include the hash tag #ARRLFD to keep your club visible on the national level. And be sure to build your social media network with local media outlets, reporters, bloggers, and other community VIPs. **Bonus: 100 points.**

4) Create and staff a welcome table at your Field Day site: A welcome table complete with an engaging greeter and brochures about amateur radio helps visitors to your site feel more involved. Provide tour guides to help steer your visitors through your site and explain what your visitors will see and hear. Include a signup sheet for visitors to provide contact information, so your club can follow up with those who want to learn more about amateur radio. **Bonus: 100 points.**

5) Invite your local elected officials to visit: Making our state, county, and local elected officials aware of how amateur radio can benefit your community is a critical outreach goal. Extend the invitation to all your elected governmental representatives; if you invite them and they show up, everybody benefits! **Bonus: 100 points.**

6) Build relationships with served agencies: Most ham radio clubs involved with public service are looking for ways to build or enhance their relationships with their local served agencies. Instead of going to someone's office and giving a lecture about what amateur radio is, invite them to come see and experience your group in action. **Bonus: 100 points.**

Your efforts to promote Field Day could have a much greater effect than merely boosting your score by 600 points. If done properly, you can raise awareness about amateur radio within your community, which could have an impact on relationships with your local first responders, open minds of city council members on issues of antenna restrictions, and a host of other benefits. Do your best to showcase amateur radio; it can make a world of difference!

PUBLICITY TIP SHEET

Ideas to help you promote Amateur Radio Week and ARRL Field Day...

1. Copy and paste the enclosed news release/media advisory onto your club letterhead. Be sure to fill in your club's name and contact in the appropriate blanks. Or feel free to lift any text from this release and add it to one you've already created.
2. Email the news release/media advisory to editors at your local paper, radio and television stations. Follow up with a telephone call within a few days to see that it was received and offer any additional information. Remember to check if the person is on deadline or if he or she has time to talk.
3. Field Day may be a training exercise that the media will enjoy, but make sure to talk about all aspects of what amateur radio is: public service, a hands-on way to learn science, and a great time.
4. Avoid amateur radio jargon in any press materials and in conversations or interviews with media representatives.
5. Designate someone at your Field Day site who will be able to greet media, talk about amateur radio and explain what is happening at the event. Be sure the person you pick is someone who can answer questions in a clear, concise and professional manner.
6. Utilize all that social media has to offer. If your club doesn't have a Facebook page or Twitter account, start one now. Find a club member to be your social media content developer. "Friend" or "follow" as many local media representatives as you can. Provide regular content to your social media pages, so your club doesn't appear to be stagnant. Distribute your press release via your social media accounts and invite local journalists via social media to visit your Field Day site.
7. Take a lot of good action photos of your Field Day event. If you are interested in submitting your pictures for possible use in *QST* or elsewhere, be sure to use a good camera and the high-resolution setting (and for under age 18 youth photos for *QST*, obtain a Youth Release for each youth pictured). Avoid taking shots of people just standing around or backshots of people on a radio. Get faces. Get smiles! Get pictures that highlight the activities taking place at your event. Post your story and photos to the Field Day Soapbox at www.arrl.org/soapbox.
8. Post colorful, easy-to-read flyers in prominent places: libraries, supermarkets, schools, etc.
9. Invite your mayor or other local official to your Field Day site. Get photos!
10. Write a letter to the editor of your local paper and invite readers to visit your Field Day site and learn more about amateur radio.
11. Print and share handouts for non-hams to learn more at your Field Day site; www.arrl.org/brochures-and-exhibit-materials.

FIELD DAY PR - BEFORE, DURING, AND AFTER

Before:

- 1) Create a list of media contacts in your area. Include phone numbers and email addresses. Connect with them also on Facebook and Twitter and other social media accounts.
- 2) Bring up the need for PR at your club's Field Day planning meetings. Begin recruiting volunteers for the info booth at your site.
- 3) Send out initial press releases and invitations to officials no later than May 15; earlier if possible. Begin sending out regular updates via your social media accounts.
- 4) Create a schedule of who will staff your information table and list what their duties are.
- 5) Make follow-up phone calls within a week of sending out your press releases.
- 6) If you don't receive any replies to invitations by June 1, make a second inquiry.

During:

- 1) Make one more call to the media if time allows.
- 2) Keep your social media stream active with photos, posts, and invitations for the public to come visit.
- 3) Greet media representative(s). Get their business card and give them your contact information.
- 4) Have printed fact sheets or backgrounders available for media to take with them.
- 5) Don't interrupt or interject during media interaction unless absolutely necessary.
- 6) Be sure media representative has accurate spellings of names, titles, and call signs.

After:

- 1) Thank media representative(s) if appropriate.
- 2) Be sure to get ample copies of coverage.
- 3) Share coverage with participants, club members and the ARRL. Post on your club's Facebook page.
- 4) Look for "secondary exposure" opportunities.

ARRL FIELD DAY PUBLIC RELATIONS CALENDAR IN SUPPORT OF MEDIA DEVELOPMENT

TRADITIONAL MEDIA (Newspapers, Broadcast TV and Broadcast Radio)

1 month – 3 weeks before:

Book guest appearances on broadcast news and talk shows.
HINT: For radio bring MP3 files of sound actualities of CW and digital.
For TV, bring “B” roll video of past Field Day operations.

2 weeks before: Send release and contributed photos to weekly newspapers for their Thursday editions. HINT: Any minor under age 18 needs a [signed release](#) from parents or guardians.

Week of event: Guest appearances on radio and TV.

Week of event: Send releases to broadcast TV news assignment editors to place in weekend file.

3-4 days before: Send releases to daily newspapers.

2-3 days before: Send reminders to all daily media.

TIPS

- Include PIO’s cell number in all releases.
- Use the 5 “W”s – who, what when, where and why.
- Include background material and hyperlinks for more information.
- If your FD is outside, make sure all ops know how to get in contact with PIO.

SOCIAL MEDIA TIPS

Primary Hashtags **#ARRLFD**

Secondary Hashtags **#ARRL #HamRadio #AmateurRadio #YourCommunityHashtags**

- 1) Establish a social media account (Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, etc.).
- 2) Make a couple of posts each week, with increasing frequency during the final two weeks before Field Day. Start posting early to build up a following (for example, T minus 6 months, 5 months, etc.).
- 3) If you know people or stations who will be live streaming, publicize their profile or streaming link starting a week out.
- 4) Prep a social media team if possible and conduct just-in-time training and assign tasks now through the event. Put together a list of some of the things/people you might want to highlight. Encourage local Field Day participants to send you photos.

IMPORTANT: a lot of social media is image-centric, so remind members about appearance and safety prior to making videos or taking pictures. A picture of someone doing something unsafe will garner a ton of not so kind comments and unwanted attention. A couple of weeks before Field Day, practice posting photos and videos, streaming live video, and making sure your systems are operating correctly, you can frame things nicely, have good light, WiFi/cellular coverage, etc. Get a boost battery (or two) if relying on a cell phone.

The day before Field Day, make sure all batteries are charged, all system/software updates are done (then tell Windows to pause updates for seven days).

ARRL's sample ARRL Field Day Media Advisory

(Use Section or radio club letterhead. Keep to a single page.)

ARRL Field Day logo

<http://www.arrl.org/files/file/Field-Day/2023/2023%20ARRL%20Field%20Day%20Logo%20DO%20NOT%20EDIT%20OR%20MODIFY.jpg>

Contact:

[LOCAL CONTACT's NAME] [LOCAL CONTACT's TITLE, if any]

[EMAIL]

[PHONE]

MEDIA ADVISORY

20XX ARRL Field Day — June XX – XX

[alt headline] **Ham Radio Operators On the Air for Nationwide Event June XX – XX**

Ham radio operators from the _____ [name of your radio club or Section] in _____ [name of your community] will be participating in a national amateur radio exercise from [start time] on Saturday until [shutdown time] on Sunday, June XX – XX. The event is [ARRL Field Day \(www.arrl.org/FieldDay\)](http://www.arrl.org/FieldDay), an annual amateur radio activity organized since 1933 by ARRL, The National Association for Amateur Radio in the United States.

Hams from across North America ordinarily participate in Field Day by establishing temporary ham radio stations in public locations to demonstrate their skill and service. Their use of radio signals, which reach beyond borders, bring people together while providing essential communication in the service of communities. Field Day highlights ham radio's ability to work reliably under any conditions from almost any location and create an independent, wireless communications network.

Some hams from _____ [name of your region] will also use the radio stations set up in their homes or taken to their backyards and other locations to operate individually or with their families. Many hams have portable radio communication capability that includes alternative energy sources such as generators, solar panels, and batteries to power their equipment.

This year's event is also noteworthy given that a particularly active hurricane season is predicted. "Hams have a long history of serving our communities when storms or other disasters damage critical communication infrastructure, including cell towers," said _____ [name and volunteer role or title], (call sign XXXXXX). "Ham radio functions completely independently of the internet and phone systems and a station can be set up almost anywhere in minutes. Hams can quickly raise a wire antenna in a tree or on a mast, connect it to a radio and power source, and communicate effectively with others," [last name] added.

During Field Day 2021, more than 26,000 hams participated from thousands of locations across North America. According to ARRL, there are more than 750,000 amateur radio licensees in the US, and an estimated 3 million worldwide.

Among the tenets of the Amateur Radio Service is developing and practicing skills in radio technology and radio communications, and even contributing to international goodwill. Hams range in age from as young as 9 to older than 100. A self-study license guide is available from ARRL: [The ARRL Ham Radio License Manual \(www.arrl.org/shop/Ham-Radio-License-Manual\)](http://www.arrl.org/shop/Ham-Radio-License-Manual) and for [Kindle \(https://read.amazon.com/kp/embed?asin=B07DFSW94G\)](https://read.amazon.com/kp/embed?asin=B07DFSW94G). For more information about ARRL Field Day and ham radio, contact _____ [club or personal contact info] and visit www.arrl.org/what-is-ham-radio.

###

ARRL's sample ARRL Field Day Media Advisory for TV and Radio Stations

(Use Section or radio club letterhead. Keep to a single page.)

Contact: [LOCAL CONTACT's NAME] [LOCAL CONTACT's TITLE, if any] [EMAIL] [AREA CODE & PHONE]

MEDIA ADVISORY

Amateur Radio "Field Day" - June XX and XX - Will Focus on Skill, Service, Science

WHO/WHAT Members of the _____ [club name] will be participating in the national amateur radio Field Day exercise, June XX – XX at _____ [Location]. Since 1933, ham radio operators across North America have established temporary ham radio stations in public locations during Field Day to showcase the science and skill of amateur radio. This event is open to the public and all are encouraged to attend.

WHEN Saturday and Sunday, June XX and XX. On Saturday, June XX, from [start time] to [shutdown time] and on Sunday, June XX, from [start time] to [shutdown time]

WHERE _____ [Location]. *(If necessary, include a link to a map that pinpoints the location.)*

WHY Field Day is a showcase for how amateur radio works reliably under any conditions from almost any location to create an independent communications network. *"Ham radio functions completely independent of the Internet or cell phone infrastructure, can interface with laptops or smartphones, and can be set up almost anywhere in minutes. That's the beauty of amateur radio during a communications outage," says Bob Inderbitzen, NQ1R, spokesperson for ARRL The national association for Amateur Radio®, (www.arrl.org), which represents amateur (or "ham") radio operators across the country. "In today's electronic do-it-yourself (DIY) environment, ham radio remains one of the best ways for people to learn about electronics, physics, meteorology, and numerous other scientific disciplines, and is a huge asset to any community during disasters or emergencies if the standard communication infrastructure goes down," Inderbitzen adds. Anyone may become a licensed amateur radio operator. There are more than 750,000 licensed hams in the United States, as young as 9 and as old as 100. And with clubs such as ____ [name of your club], it's easy for anybody to get involved right here in _____ [name of your community]. For more information about Field Day or amateur radio, contact _____ [your club's Field Day contact info] or visit www.arrl.org/what-is-ham-radio.*

###

ARRL FIELD DAY TALKING POINTS FOR PIOS AND PICS

- Largest all-volunteer radio communications exercise in the world
- Started by ARRL, the National Association for Amateur Radio® in 1933
- **2023** is the **83rd** annual ARRL Field Day (subtract 1942-1946 when amateur radio was suspended during World War II by the FCC)
- 750,000 federally licensed amateur radio operators in the U.S.
- Must take written examinations on scientific knowledge and regulations to obtain license
- The word “Amateur” means operators cannot accept payment for services
- Amateur radio is over a century old
- “Ham radio” is the nickname for amateur radio. “Ham” origin is believed to be a folklore reference to early telegraph operators
- Normally ARRL Field Day consists of about 1,500 public outdoor stations, many organized by radio clubs
- Hams donate equivalent of millions of dollars per year in of emergency and public service communications tax free
- Today’s operators use traditional voice and Morse code, and state-of-the-art digital modes
- Amateur radio is a springboard for scientific and engineering careers
- No age restrictions to obtain a license. Operators range in age from 5-108.
- Wholesome hobby with a great purpose; technology and serving our communities
- Prominent Americans who are licensed amateur radio operators include comedian Tim Allen, former FEMA Director Craig Fugate, Harvard University President Lawrence Bacow, Nobel Prize laureate Joe Taylor, guitarist Joe Walsh of the Eagles, and astronaut Bob Behnken, who is currently aboard the International Space Station and who rode aboard the Dragon SpaceX rocket to get there.

WHAT IS ARRL FIELD DAY

ARRL Field Day is the single most popular on-the-air event held annually in the US and Canada. On the fourth weekend of June of each year, more than 35,000 radio amateurs gather with their clubs, groups or simply with friends to operate from remote locations.

Field Day is a picnic, a campout, practice for emergencies, an informal contest and, most of all, FUN!

It is a time where many aspects of amateur radio come together to highlight our many roles. While some will treat it as a contest, other groups use the opportunity to practice their emergency response capabilities. It is an excellent opportunity to demonstrate amateur radio to the organizations that amateur radio might serve in an emergency, as well as the general public. For many radio clubs, ARRL Field Day is one of the highlights of their annual calendar.

The contest part is simply to contact as many other stations as possible and to learn to operate our radio gear in abnormal situations and less than optimal conditions.

We use these same skills when we help with events such as marathons and bike-a-thons; fund-raisers such as walk-a-thons; celebrations such as parades; and exhibits at fairs, malls and museums — these are all large, preplanned, non-emergency activities.

But despite the development of very complex, modern communications systems — or maybe because they ARE so complex — ham radio has been called into action again and again to provide communications in crises when it really matters. Amateur radio people (also called “hams”) are well known for our communications support in real disaster and post-disaster situations.

What is the ARRL?

Founded as The American Radio Relay League in 1914, ARRL is the national association for Amateur Radio® in the USA, representing over 170,000 FCC-licensed amateurs. ARRL is the primary source of information about what is going on in ham radio. It provides books, news, support and information for individuals and clubs, special events, continuing education classes and other benefits for its members.

What is Amateur Radio

Often called “ham radio,” the Amateur Radio Service has been around for a century. In that time, it’s grown into a worldwide community of licensed operators using the airwaves with every conceivable means of communications technology. Its people range in age from youngsters to grandparents. Even rocket scientists and a rock star or two are in the ham ranks. Most, however, are just normal folks like you and me who enjoy learning and being able to transmit voice, data, and pictures through the air to unusual places, both near and far, without depending on commercial systems.

The Amateur Radio Service frequencies are the last remaining place in the usable radio spectrum where you as an individual can develop and experiment with wireless communications. Hams not only can make and modify their equipment but can create whole new ways to do things.

For More Information visit: www.arrl.org

ARRL SOCIAL MEDIA AND ARRL FIELD DAY

Social media plays an increasingly important role in how the world communicates, so it's important we use these tools to communicate what ham radio is up to during our largest on-air event of the season. Help promote amateur radio and your club or group to the general public; you'll find it very rewarding, in many ways.

Promoting your club's Field Day effort just got even more rewarding! Using social media such as Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, LinkedIn, and YouTube can earn you a quick 100 points toward your Field Day score.

You can use social media to announce your Field Day site, invite the public, interact with elected officials or your local served agencies, post photos or videos of activities, blog about the Saturday night potluck, and much more.

To qualify for this bonus, you must be using this contact method frequently during your Field Day operation. Simply posting a single tweet on Twitter (something like "come join our Field Day event") does not qualify. The intent is to have an ongoing, active presence on your chosen social media platform/s during your entire operation. For example, use the hashtag #ARRLFD and tag ARRL's social media platforms when posting about your event.

Primary Hashtags **#ARRLFD**

Secondary Hashtags **#ARRL #HamRadio #AmateurRadio #YourCommunityHashtags**

Facebook: [ARRL Field Day \(Annual Event\)](#), [@ARRL.org](#), [@ARRLOTA](#)

Twitter: [@arrl](#), [@w1aw](#), [@arrl_ares](#)

Instagram: [@arrlhq](#)

LinkedIn: [ARRL, the national association for Amateur Radio](#)

YouTube: [ARRLHQ](#)

TikTok: [@arrlhq](#)

Note that this bonus only applies to recognized social media. Simply having something on your club's website about Field Day doesn't qualify.

For more information on utilizing social media for ARRL Field Day, visit the ARRL Field Day Webpage at arrl.org/field-day

SAMPLE FIELD DAY INVITATION LETTER
to elected representatives or officials from served agencies
(copy this on your club letterhead, if you have some)

[Name of invitee]

[Title of invitee]

[Address]

[City, State, Zip]

[Date]

Dear [Name of invitee],

As **your title** of **your club's name**, I would like to extend an invitation for you to meet with the amateur radio operators of your community as we participate in the national Field Day event, **date/time** at **location**.

Amateur radio operators provide a critical public service for our community; during times of disaster, we are able to provide reliable communications when the normal infrastructure is offline. Licensed by the Federal Communications Commission and trained in the art and science of radio communication and basic electronics theory, we own and maintain our own communications equipment and are prohibited by federal law from receiving payment for our services. ARRL, our national organization, has built relationships with several served agencies including FEMA, the Red Cross, the Salvation Army, and many others.

This public service is easily extended during non-emergency civic events, such as parades, marathons, and street festivals.

Field Day is our chance to show the science, service,
and skill we can offer to our community free of charge.

We would love the opportunity to show you our capabilities in person.

I look forward to hearing from you soon.

Regards,

Your Name

Your Title

SAMPLE PROCLAMATION

While there is no bonus for having an official proclamation issued by state or local authorities, it is always good way to stir up interest and public awareness. On occasion clubs will seek to have the local town or city mayor/officials proclaim an “Amateur Radio Week.” While there is no bonus for such a proclamation, it is good recognition for the club and amateur radio.

The following is a rough draft of language for a proclamation. Modify it to fit your local city or regional leadership.

Whereas, Amateur radio operators are celebrating over a century of the miracle of the human voice broadcast over the airwaves; and

Whereas, Amateur radio has continued to provide a bridge between peoples, societies and countries by creating friendships and the sharing of ideas; and

Whereas, Amateur radio operators have also provided countless hours of community services both in emergencies and to other local organizations throughout these decades; and

Whereas, these Amateur radio services are provided wholly uncompensated; and

Whereas, the State also recognizes the services amateur radio’s people also provide to our many Emergency Response organizations, including _____add local and gov’t served agencies; and

Whereas, these same individuals have further demonstrated their value in public assistance by providing free radio communications for local parades, bike-a-thons, walk-a-thons, fairs and other charitable public events; and

Whereas, the ___state/city___ of _____ recognizes and appreciates the diligence of these “hams” who also serve as weather spotters in the Skywarn program of the National Weather Service; and

Whereas, the ARRL is the national association for amateur radio in the USA; and

Whereas, the ARRL Amateur Radio Field Day exercise will take place on June XX-XX, 20XX and is a 24-hour emergency preparedness exercise and demonstration of the radio amateurs’ skills and readiness to provide self-supporting communications without further infrastructure being required; now

Therefore, I ___name___, _____title_____ of the ___place_____, do hereby officially recognize and designate June XX-XX as Amateur Radio Week In the ___place_____

Signed _____ Title _____

Seal

ARRL / RAC Section Abbreviation List

Call Area 1

Connecticut	CT	Rhode Island	RI
Eastern Massachusetts	EMA	Vermont	VT
Maine	ME	Western Massachusetts	WMA
New Hampshire	NH		

Call Area 2

Eastern New York	ENY	Northern New York	NNY
NYC / Long Island	NLI	Southern New Jersey	SNJ
Northern New Jersey	NNJ	Western New York	WNY

Call Area 3

Delaware	DE	Maryland – DC	MDC
Eastern Pennsylvania	EPA	Western Pennsylvania	WPA

Call Area 4

Alabama	AL	Southern Florida	SFL
Georgia	GA	Tennessee	TN
Kentucky	KY	Virginia	VA
North Carolina	NC	West Central Florida	WCF
Northern Florida	NFL	Puerto Rico	PR
South Carolina	SC	US Virgin Islands	VI

Call Area 5

Arkansas	AR	North Texas	NTX
Louisiana	LA	Oklahoma	OK
Mississippi	MS	South Texas	STX
New Mexico	NM	West Texas	WTX

Call Area 6

East Bay	EB	San Diego	SDG
Los Angeles	LAX	San Francisco	SF
Orange	ORG	San Joaquin Valley	SJV
Santa Barbara	SB	Sacramento Valley	SV
Santa Clara Valley	SCV	Pacific	PAC

Call Area 7

Alaska	AK	Nevada	NV
Arizona	AZ	Oregon	OR
Eastern Washington	EWA	Utah	UT
Idaho	ID	Western Washington	WWA
Montana	MT	Wyoming	WY

Call Area 8

Michigan	MI	West Virginia	WV
Ohio	OH		

Call Area 9

Illinois	IL	Wisconsin	WI
Indiana	IN		

Call Area Ø

Colorado	CO	Missouri	MO
Iowa	IA	Nebraska	NE
Kansas	KS	North Dakota	ND
Minnesota	MN	South Dakota	SD

Canada

Alberta	AB	Ontario East	ONE
British Columbia	BC	Ontario North	ONN
Golden Horseshoe	GH (formerly GTA)	Ontario South	ONS
Manitoba	MB	Prince Edward Island	PE
New Brunswick	NB	Quebec	QC
Newfoundland/Labrador	NL	Saskatchewan	SK
Nova Scotia	NS	Territories	TER (formerly NT)

Stations located outside of the US and Canada should be logged as DX

2026 W1AW Field Day Bulletin Schedule

Day	Mode	Pacific	Mountain	Central	Eastern	UTC
FRIDAY	CW	5:00 PM	6:00 PM	7:00 PM	8:00 PM	0000 (Sat)
	Digital	6:00 PM	7:00 PM	8:00 PM	9:00 PM	0100
	Phone	6:45 PM	7:45 PM	8:45 PM	9:45 PM	0145
	CW	8:00 PM	9:00 PM	10:00 PM	11:00 PM	0300
SATURDAY	CW	7:00 AM	8:00 AM	9:00 AM	10:00 AM	1400
	Phone	8:00 AM	9:00 AM	10:00 AM	11:00 AM	1500
	CW	5:00 PM	6:00 PM	7:00 PM	8:00 PM	0000 (Sun)
	Digital	6:00 PM	7:00 PM	8:00 PM	9:00 PM	0100
	Phone	6:45 PM	7:45 PM	8:45 PM	9:45 PM	0145
SUNDAY	CW	7:00 AM	8:00 AM	9:00 AM	10:00 AM	1400
	Phone	8:00 AM	9:00 AM	10:00 AM	11:00 AM	1500
	Digital	9:00 AM	10:00 AM	11:00 AM	12:00 PM	1600

K6KPH Field Day Bulletin Schedule

SATURDAY	CW	7:30 AM	8:30 AM	9:30 AM	10:30 AM	1430
	CW	5:30 PM	6:30 PM	7:30 PM	8:30 PM	0030 (Sun)
	Digital	6:30 PM	7:30 PM	8:30 PM	9:30 PM	0130
SUNDAY	CW	7:30 AM	8:30 AM	9:30 AM	10:30 AM	1430
	Digital	9:30 AM	10:30 AM	11:30 AM	12:30 PM	1630

W1AW will operate on the regularly published frequencies.

CW frequencies are 1.8025, 3.5815, 7.0475, 14.0475, 18.0775, 21.0675, 28.0675, 50.350 and 147.555 MHz.

Digital frequencies are 3.5975, 7.095, 14.095, 18.1025, 21.095, 28.095, 50.350 and 147.555 MHz.

During Field Day weekend, W1AW will transmit the Field Day Bulletin using 45.45 baud Baudot, PSK31 (BPSK Mode), and MFSK16 in this mode order. **NOTE: On Friday local, the digital version of the Field Day bulletin sent from W1AW at 9 PM EDT (0100 UTC Saturday) will be transmitted using BPSK31, Baudot, and MFSK16 in this order.**

Phone frequencies are 1.855, 3.990, 7.290, 14.290, 18.160, 21.390, 28.590, 50.350 and 147.555 MHz.

The Maritime Radio Historical Society's station K6KPH will transmit the "W1AW" Field Day message for the benefit of West Coast stations on 3.5815, 7.0475, 14.0475, 18.0775, and 21.0675 MHz (CW). The frequencies for K6KPH Teleprinter (RTTY, PSK31 and MFSK16) will be 3.5975, 7.095, and 14.095 MHz (in this mode order).

This schedule is correct at the time of publishing this packet, but be sure to check the ARRL Main News page (www.arrl.org) in case of any last-minute changes.