

When there just aren't enough..

When there aren't enough first responders to go around and communication is breaking down, RACES, a strictly volunteer organization, will be there to serve the community where communications are needed.



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Chautauqua County NY RACES

When all else fails

RADIO AMATEUR CIVIL EMERGENCY SERVICE

**Interoperable and Emergency
Communications**

New York State DHSES

Division of Homeland Security and
Emergency Services



ACTIVATED WHEN NEEDED

When activated the Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Service will consist of only those amateur radio operators who have been certified by State and local governments to provide emergency radio communications in times of emergency. Other amateur radio operations under the FCC rules might be restricted to certain frequencies within the amateur radio bands. In addition to wartime communications, operations under the FCC rules can provide or supplement communications during emergencies where normal communication systems have sustained damage. RACES may be used in a wide variety of situations, including natural disasters, technological disasters, nuclear accidents, nuclear attack, terrorist incidents, and bomb threats.



9/11/01 "This *Not* a Test"

Amateur Radio operators mobilized within minutes of the first attack on the World Trade Center, and then responded magnificently in the Washington, DC, area and Pennsylvania.

Amateur Radio operators have demonstrated their readiness, perhaps as never before. While Amateur Radio Emergency Service and Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Service training might not have readied them to fully comprehend the terrible events of that day, Amateur Radio operators were among the first to volunteer.



Katrina: New Orleans

Often unsung, amateur radio operators regularly assist in emergency situations. Hurricane Katrina was no exception. For several weeks, operators of amateur, or ham, radio were instrumental in helping residents in the hardest hit areas, including saving stranded flood victims in Louisiana and Mississippi. When cell phones are overloaded, and phone lines are down, amateur radio come to the rescue.

An Alternate Approach

An alternate approach to tying up resources during searches, fires and other disaster related issues is to have RACES communicate to central command rather than a professional using their time when they could be doing more critical jobs.
