Simulated Emergency Test 2026

Scenario:

Your county has been catastrophically damaged by a natural disaster. As a result of this natural disaster, shelters have been opened, county Emergency Management has fully activated their EOC's, the state EOC has been activated, and ARES/RACES has been called upon for providing communications in the EOC's and local shelters. The mission of the ARES/RACES operators would be to pass resource requests to the (sim)SEOC as well as health and welfare traffic to points within and outside of the state of Wisconsin.

Your local group will be tasked with the handling of health and welfare traffic from your local shelters to the local/county EOC, and from the local/county EOC both back to the shelter and/or to the (sim)SEOC. Modes to be utilized will be VHF/UHF/HF phone and Winlink.

It is encouraged for all participants (leadership, EC's, DEC's, individual participants) to send at least one message on the air in NTS format and one in ICS-213 format. Requests, status reports, welfare responses, etc. would all be appropriate.

Purpose:

This exercise is the opportunity for ARES/RACES groups to demonstrate their abilities to local served agencies as well as test what does and doesn't work during the course of the exercise. Along with this, the exercise gives an opportunity for teachable moments to newer operators, and to help operators gain procedural experience in a controlled setting.

Local groups should work to handle both local VHF/UHF information and traffic passing as well as having operators on high frequency and operating digital platforms such as Winlink.

District Emergency Coordinators and higher as well as district relay stations should be able to access their MBO for instructions and messages before and during the event. ***It is highly suggested you check to ensure your MBO access and Winlink still works prior to this exercise, as the MBO may be used to pass information as well as traditional over-the-air information.***