

## Hurricane ECHO

A (simulated) hurricane, Hurricane Echo, will impact the eastern portion of Virginia starting Saturday morning, October 4th, 2014 at 5AM. By 9AM power, telephone and Internet outages are widespread east of a north/south line through Richmond. Tidal surges capable of significant coastal flooding in the eastern portion of Virginia from the North Carolina border north to Maryland including the northern portions of the Chesapeake Bay and estuaries. Category 1 strength winds, locally intense thunderstorms and tornadoes will occur throughout the day. West of Richmond, rainfall of 12" to 16" will fall by 9AM. This will cause area, river and lake/pond flooding.

Flooding will be comparable to historical disastrous levels in the Piedmont, mountain and south central regions of Virginia. It is expected that the storm effects will begin to subside by 12PM and have moved through the region by 3PM local time. Hurricane Echo will cause power, telecommunications and data outages throughout the Commonwealth. This conditions will lead to a communications emergency and amateur radio will be critical to an effective response and recovery phase of the simulated disaster.

### General Comments:

The intent of this SET is provide an exercise infrastructure for EMCOMM teams to test their readiness, plans and equipment. This is intended to be a bottom-up exercise with support via the section level nets and leadership. ARES and all organized EMCOMM volunteers are invited to participate. In an actual disaster all volunteer resources trained for emergency communications will be needed.

You are encouraged to involve served agencies such as the Red Cross, Salvation Army and served government entities. This could be based on your current plan(s) or this could be an opportunity to demonstrate Amateur Radio and your capabilities to a new audience. Outreach to neighboring Amateur Radio EMCOMM groups is encouraged.

Simulated mutual aid call outs may be included in the SET. This may occur according to MOUs or other existing agreements between jurisdictions and agencies or may involve a test of the state level organization to arrange the requested resources.

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