

TO: ALL WOOD COUNTY EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS AMATEURS
ALL NON-WOOD COUNTY EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS AMATEURS
FROM: KEN HARRIS WA8LLM
WOOD COUNTY EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS INCORPORATED

WOOD COUNTY BULLETIN NR 24.28 DATE: July 14 2024
SUBJECT: THE IMPORTANCE OF HANDHELDS

Handheld radios may be one of the most important tools to Amateur radio operators who actually perform emergency communications in the field. If we could sit at home, and talk in person to the incident commander or drive your car, truck, or van right to the incident command post, we could eliminate handheld use for this function. If we could just take our vehicles thru police lines at a disaster site, we might be able to eliminate handheld use in this situation also.

Handheld radios may have difficulty hitting a repeater from time to time, this is understandable. This is why Wood County ARES/RACES is concerned with remote receivers and link repeaters. We Need to cover as much area as possible. As a emergency communicator, we should carry our handheld with us, at least in our vehicles, at all times. Even if you have a mobile rig in your vehicle, which is great, you should still have the handheld radio close at hand. You never know when you may come upon an incident that requires you to walk a distance from your vehicle. Or, respond to an incident, and not be allowed to take your vehicle to the incident command post. So carry that HT, and other stuff in your vehicle. It may be one of the most important tools an emergency communicator can have. It could even help save a life some day, maybe your own.

Ken Harris WA8LLM
WCEC
Wood County