



Contact:
Ed Efchak, Public Information Officer
eefchak@gmail.com
802-282-6700 / 201-797-6846

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Fair Lawn Amateur Radio Club Celebrates A Weekend Of Radio Science
With Field Day

Members of the Fair Lawn Amateur Radio Club will be participating in the national Amateur Radio Field Day exercise, beginning Saturday, June 23rd at 1PM and ending Sunday, June 24th at 1PM. The venue will be Memorial Park, Avenue of Heroes/Berdan Avenue in Fair Lawn. The event is open to everyone and refreshments will be served.

This year's theme will feature a weekend of science and technology focused on radio science. The club will offer working demonstrations and present visitors the opportunity to look at the Sun through a solar telescope to learn about the impact upon radio communications on earth; a satellite station offering the opportunity to communicate with orbiting satellites (and, quite possibly, the International Space Station), to "get on the air" and talk with others around the country, see a high frequency radio alternative to local land-based cellular communication and watch demonstrations of both the latest and earliest forms of radio transmitting.

As usual, the club will partner with other ham radio operators across North America establishing temporary ham radio stations in public locations during Field Day weekend to showcase the science and skill of Amateur Radio. This year the club will feature four working radio stations. "Field Day", an annual event since 1933, demonstrates ham radio's ability to work reliably under any conditions from almost any location and create an independent communications network. Ham operators train and prepare to support emergency communications by providing radio links when other communications channels aren't working. This year's hurricane disasters in Puerto Rico, Florida and Texas highlighted the value of amateur radio which provided communications lifelines when all other methods were disabled.

This year's event also showcases the club's work in public service. "In disasters, we've learned that cell towers won't work and ham operators play a huge role when that happens," said Brad Kerber, President of the Fair Lawn club. "Ham radio functions completely independent of the Internet or cell phone infrastructure, and can be set up almost anywhere in minutes. That's the beauty of amateur radio during a communications outage." "Hams can literally throw a wire in a tree for an antenna, connect it to a battery-powered transmitter and communicate halfway around the world," Frank added. "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 if the standard communication infrastructure goes down." Amateur radio remains contemporary and more important than ever. "We've spoken with many local STEM and "Maker" organizations and learned that amateur radio is an increasing part of their learning curriculum" Kerber concluded.

Anyone may become a licensed Amateur Radio operator; there are more licensed US operators today than ever before. And with clubs such as Fair Lawn Amateur Radio Club, it's easy for anybody to get involved in Fair Lawn. The club meets every Friday at the Community Center located at 10-10 20th Street in Fair Lawn.

For more information contact Ed Efchak at eefchak@gmail.com or visit www.arrl.org/what-is-ham-radio or the local club site at www.fairlawnarc.org.