

OZARES REGISTRATION FORM - Page 2

ARES (Amateur Radio Emergency Service) and RACES (Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Service) for Ozaukee County, Wisconsin

ARES is a voluntary organization of licensed radio amateurs who have registered their capabilities and equipment for providing emergency communications as a public service to the community. The purpose of ARES is to furnish communications in the event of a natural or man-made disaster, when regular communications fail or are inadequate. Sponsored by the American Radio Relay League, ARES functions at the local level to meet local communications needs.

As is true of all ARES groups, OZARES operates under the direction of the Emergency Coordinator (EC), whose function is to direct the activities of the group toward maintaining a state of readiness. It is not necessary to be a member of the ARRL to be a member of OZARES. There is provision in OZARES for every amateur, regardless of class of license, equipment owned or personal circumstances.

RACES is sponsored by the Federal Emergency Management Agency, but operations are largely delegated to state government. All OZARES members are also registered RACES operators. In the event of a large emergency, it is likely that OZARES members will be operating under both ARES and RACES, simultaneously. See the OZARES MANUAL for details.

OZARES is Ozaukee County's ARES group. It is permanently attached to the Ozaukee County Division of Emergency Management by mutual consent. This governmental unit is charged with managing resources in times of emergency, and OZARES represents an important communications resource. OZARES hams have been assigned in past emergencies to provide communications between various governmental agencies and officials, as well as communications service for the Red Cross. They have served as severe weather spotters on many occasions, and have even supplied mobile spotting service in a search for a fugitive.

The Emergency Management complex (at the Justice Center in Port Washington) houses a well equipped Emergency Communications Center, where a variety of amateur and public service communications equipment is operating or is ready to operate in emergencies. OZARES hams train with this equipment.

Members should attend a minimum of 50% of all training sessions and meetings, and pass periodic certification tests using a variety of amateur and public service equipment. Members are also encouraged to upgrade their skills through ARRL and FEMA internet courses or other suitable training. A copy or record of successful completion of such courses or training should be submitted to the EC.

OZARES affords hams an opportunity to perform community service using their unique talents to the benefit of the public at large. It is a chance to "pay back" the public for the privilege of using the radio spectrum. We would be pleased to have you join us.

There are no charges of any kind associated with joining OZARES. However, you must provide the EC with: 1) the information requested on page one of this form, 2) a current photo, either color or black and white, for the purpose of creating a valid OZARES ID card, and 3) a legible photocopy of your amateur license.

How will the personal data you provide us be used? In an emergency, it is important that the data we collect on each member be available to all other members of OZARES, and to county and state officials. For example, it might be important for another OZARES member who is heading an emergency incident to know your phone number and that you have low band capability at home. Similarly, the EC must provide your name, address, phone number, class of license, and other data to state officials in order to register you with RACES. Beyond these reasonable uses, we will not provide your personal data to anyone.

You may keep this part of the application form for your files. Please inform the EC if any of the data you provide changes.

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Jack Morrison, N9SFG, ARRL Assistant EC for Training, 201 S. Regis Road, Sauville 53080. (262) 284-2640

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