



# Western Rockingham ARES

**What is ARES and why does it exist?**

This presentation designed to be an overview of what information is readily available and offered during the weekly nets. Contact [k1gao@arrl.net](mailto:k1gao@arrl.net) for comments.

# WROCK ARES



## Brief History

- ▶ **ARES is sponsored by ARRL**
- ▶ **It has a history of public service going back to 1935**
- ▶ **In 1913 college student hams in Michigan & Ohio passed disaster messages when other means of communication were down in the aftermath of severe storms and flooding.**
- ▶ **In 1935, ARRL formed the ARRL Emergency Corp with the goal of having an amateur radio emergency station in every community.**

Learning objectives are to introduce a brief history of ARES / RACES

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## History (Cont)

- ▶ More “served agencies” emerged as partners including American Red Cross
- ▶ In 1936 a major flood across 14 states was the ARRL emergency corps first major test.
- ▶ Operating protocols and appointments of emergency coordinators followed.
- ▶ Amateur Radio was shut down during WWII but many hams joined the war emergency radio service.

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## History (cont)

- ▶ After WWII ARRL reconstituted its disaster response programs and networks.
- ▶ The first Simulated Emergency Test was conducted in 1946.
- ▶ The cold war followed and RACES was formed for civil defense purposes, the forerunner of the modern emergency management model we use today.

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## History (cont)

- ▶ **This presentation is a summary of the ARES Basic EmComm Course**  
**For more information on Western Rockingham ARES please contact:**  
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Contact k1gao@arrl.net with comments and questions.