



PRESS RELEASE: June 20, 2023

Ham radio operators from the Tampa Amateur Radio Club in Tampa will be participating in a national amateur radio exercise from 2:00 pm on Saturday, June 24th until 2:00 pm on Sunday, June 25th. The event is [ARRL Field Day](#), an annual amateur radio activity organized since 1933 by ARRL, The National Association for Amateur Radio in the United States.

Hams from across North America ordinarily participate in Field Day by establishing temporary ham radio stations in public locations to demonstrate their skill and service. Their use of radio signals, which reach beyond borders, bring people together while providing essential communication in the service of communities. Field Day highlights ham radio's ability to work reliably under any conditions from almost any location and create an independent, wireless communications network.

Some hams from Tampa Bay and surrounding areas will also use the radio stations set up in their homes or taken to their backyards and other locations to operate individually or with their families. Many of our members have portable radio communication capability that includes alternative energy sources such as generators, solar panels, and batteries to power their equipment.

This year's event is also noteworthy given that a particularly active hurricane season is predicted. "Hams have a long history of serving our communities when storms or other disasters damage critical communication infrastructure, including cell towers," said Bill Bode, N4WEB. "Ham radio functions completely independently of the internet and phone systems and a station can be set up almost anywhere in minutes. Hams can quickly raise a wire antenna in a tree or on a mast, connect it to a radio and power source, and communicate effectively with others," Bode added.

During Field Day 2022, more than 26,000 hams participated from thousands of locations across North America. According to ARRL, there are more than 750,000 amateur radio licensees in the US, and an estimated 3 million worldwide.

One of the main objectives of the Amateur Radio Service is developing and practicing skills in radio technology and radio communications, and even contributing to international goodwill. Hams range in age from as young as 9 to older than 100. The TARC clubhouse is located at 7801 N. 22nd St., Tampa, FL 33610. The General Public is invited to come by and watch our exercise in action.

For more information about [Tampa Amateur Radio Club](#) and our Field Day activities contact club President; Bill Bode, bodebil@gmail.com or club Secretary; Larry Wissinger, km4lew@gmail.com.