

**Start: 1953 L – Stop: 2014 L**

## **Pre-deployment Actions and Radio Go Kits**

### **1.1 OVERVIEW.**

Thank you, Bob. Good evening everyone. The National Weather Service is again predicting that a tropical system will likely arrive in the gulf late this weekend. Since Pinellas County is currently within the cone of uncertainty for the storm, tonight I'd like to briefly review with everyone the activities that each of us should undertake to prepare for the storm and what we should do if ACS is activated. Then, I'd like to wrap up tonight's training by discussing some of the equipment and supplies that are needed within a Radio Go-kit.

### **1.2 PRE-DEPLOYMENT ACTIVITIES**

We can start performing Pre-deployment activities prior to ACS activation and continue performing them once full or partial ACS activation takes place.

- a. Review the Pinellas ACS Emergency Communications plan and SOP.
- b. Once it is available, obtain and review a copy of the event specific ICS 205, Incident Radio Communications Plan. This document lists the VHF/UHF nets, HF nets, and digital nets that will be used during an ACS/ARES® activation event. The document describes network functions, repeater system operational parameters, simplex frequencies, and operating modes.
- c. Inventory and check radio equipment and go-kit.
- d. Winlink users should verify that software and forms are up to date.
- e. Charge Handie-Talkie (HT), computer, and emergency batteries.
- f. Preprogram HT and go-kit radio with ACS network frequencies.
- g. Test emergency generator and top-off fuel supply.
- h. Top-off fuel for car/truck.
- i. Monitor email for ACS/ARES® activation notifications and ICS 205 updates.
- j. Monitor the ACS/ARES® Tactical-Resource net for updates.

- k. Monitor local news reports.

### 1.3 FULL OR PARTIAL ACTIVATION

- a. **Ensure that family and property are safe.**
- b. Use telephone, text, or email to notify/update the EC/RO about your ability to support activation. If cell and internet service are unavailable, provide activation status via the ACS/ARES® Tactical-Resource net.
- c. **Do-Not Self-Deploy.**

**NOTE:** *Individuals who deploy without an assignment from the EC/RO, his/her designee, or the NCS will not be covered by worker's compensation.*

- d. Check-in to the ACS/ARES® Tactical-Resource net. Emergency net procedures are documented in the ACS Communications Plan.
- e. Emergency Go-kit should be packed and ready for immediate deployment.

### 1.4 DEPLOYMENT

If notified of an assignment by the EC/RO, his/her designee, or the NCS, perform the following actions.

- a. Notify the NCS when you leave your current location and are in route to your assignment.

**NOTE:** *Each ACS member who is deployed in response to an approved activation event will be covered by worker's compensation for volunteers. The coverage starts when the ACS member responds to a deployment request (sent to him/her via text, phone call, or NCS message) indicating that the member is leaving his/her home and is now in route to a deployment location. The time of this response message is recorded by the NCS and used to start the clock for worker's comp.*

- b. If you require additional equipment to support the assignment, contact the logistics officer and then proceed to the EOC to obtain the equipment. A map of the EOC location is available in the communications plan. Once you have the equipment in hand, proceed to the specified location or staging area. Notify the NCS upon your arrival at the destination.
- c. If you do not require additional equipment, proceed directly to the specified location or staging area. Notify the NCS upon arrival.

***NOTE:*** *When someone calls in to report travel, the Tactical Net Control in the radio room of the EOC will make a note stating that the person is in route to a specific location. When the traveler reports that they have arrived, the EOC will close out the associated travel monitor. If the EOC does not hear back from the traveler, the EOC will call them in approximately 30 minutes to find out where they are located or, if necessary, send someone to look for them.*

## 1.5 DEPLOYMENT KITS

The communications plans states that everyone should inventory and prepare their emergency go-kits for deployment. However, the comm plan does not include a list of the equipment or supplies that should be included in the kit.

So, for the remainder of tonight's training, I'll walk the team through some of the equipment and supplies that should be included in a VHF/UHF go-kit. When I put this list together, I assumed that members would be deployed to evacuation shelters or other locations within the county that were protected from the elements. So, I've not included anything that would be required by an individual to set-up and operate a system out in the open (e.g., tarps, tents, tables, chairs, etc.).

The list I'm about to present will be available on the Pinellas ACS website. So, you don't need to scramble and take notes. The purpose of walking through this list is to get everyone thinking about what they might need and why they might need it during a deployment.

Finally, a checklist is always a good way to ensure that you have everything you need before you deploy.

Pinellas ACS/ARES® Training Net – August 10, 2021  
Rev (-)

**X** = Required    **R** = Recommended    **O** = Optional

Check	X/R/O	Pinellas ACS Emergency Go-Kits
		<b>VHF/UHF Base Station</b>
	X	Dual Band VHF/UHF Station: 25 – 50 Watts (Could be single VHF band)
	X	DC power Supply (Don't forget AC Power cable and Radio-PS power cable)
	X	Microphone
	X	Headphones and or headset
	X	Dual Band VHF/UHF Antenna and support
	X	Coax antenna cable
	X	3-wire Extension cord, 3-6 ft Power strip
	O	3-Wire Extension Cord, 50-Ft (Optional)
	R	Back-up Battery and charger
	R	DC Power Distribution Unit (e.g., RigRunner)
	R	Operating Manual for Radio or Pocket Reference Guide
	O	Wheeled container or dolly for transporting or carrying Equipment
		<b>Administrative Supplies</b>
	X	Carrying case
	X	Pens / Pencils / Pencil Sharpener
	X	Highlighters
	X	Permanent Markers
	X	Paper clips / Rubber bands
	X	Stapler and staples

Pinellas ACS/ARES® Training Net – August 10, 2021  
Rev (-)

Check	X/R/O	Pinellas ACS Emergency Go-Kits
	X	Scotch Tape
	X	Notebook / paper
	X	Post-it Notes
	X	Scissors
	X	Clipboard
	X	Blank forms (ICS 214, ICS 213, ICS 309, ARRL Radiogram)
		Documentation
	X	Copy of the Pinellas ACS Emergency Communications Plan
	X	Event specific ICS 205
	X	ACS Telephone Contact List
		<b>Identification</b>
	X	Copy of FCC License
	X	Pinellas ACS Identification Badge
	X	Copy of Driver's License
	R	Neck Lanyard
		<b>Personal Items</b>
	X	Clothes (Long pants and closed toe shoes) -
	X	Broad Brim hat
	R	Spare glasses
	X	Prescription medicines
	X	Rain gear
	X	Cell phone, tablet, associated charging cables and power adapters
	X	Watch or clock

Pinellas ACS/ARES® Training Net – August 10, 2021  
Rev (-)

Check	X/R/O	Pinellas ACS Emergency Go-Kits
	X	Emergency money (Cash) for food gas, etc. recommend small bills.
		<b>Personal Safety Gear</b>
	X	LED Flashlight with extra batteries
	X	First Aid Kit
	X	Face Mask (N95 preferred)
	O	Hand Sanitizer
	O	Ear protection (e.g., foam ear plugs)
	O	Sunscreen, Bug Spray, Sunglasses
	O	Work gloves
		<b>Tools</b>
	X	Leatherman-type multipurpose tool
	X	Electronic Tool kit, general purpose (Screw drivers, pliers, etc.)
	R	Crimping tools for PowerPole and Coax connectors
	R	Gas or DC soldering iron, solder
	R	Multimeter
	O	Antenna Analyzer or SWR/Power meter
		<b>Spare Parts</b>
	R	2 Spare fuses for each radio, power supply, and power distribution system
	R	RF cable adapters (SO-239 barrels, SMA barrels, SMA to PL259, etc.)
	R	Coax Cable jumpers PL-259 to PL-259 (6-foot, 25-foot, etc.)
	R	Extra Coax cable and connectors
	R	PowerPole connectors and zip cord (12 or 10 gauge)

Pinellas ACS/ARES® Training Net – August 10, 2021  
Rev (-)

Check	X/R/O	Pinellas ACS Emergency Go-Kits
	R	Cable ties (plastic or Velcro ribbon) large and small
	R	Electrical tape
	R	Duct Tape
		<b>Portable Equipment – Handi-Talkie (HT)</b>
	X	Carry case/ backpack, etc.
	X	Dual-band (UHF/VHF) HT and High Gain HT antenna
	R	HT Padded Case
	R	HT Speaker Mic or Mic and headphones
	X	Extra HT Battery
	X	HT Battery Charger (AC Adapter)
	X	HT DC Adapter Charger (Cigarette plug Charger)
	R	Operating Manual for HT or Pocket Reference Guide
	R	HT antenna adapters: SMA-SO to 259, SMA to BNC, and unique to your HT and external antenna systems
		<b>Winlink Station</b>
	R	Portable/Laptop Computer
	R	Computer power supply and cables
	R	Computer carrying case or backpack
	O	External Keyboard
	O	External Mouse and mouse pad
	X	Sound modem
	O	DC to AC inverter
	O	Computer Printer
	X	Computer to radio interface cables
	R	USB Flash Drives (Exchange information with Served Agency)

## 1.6 QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS

I'd like to pause here for a minute and ask if anyone has a comment or question about tonight's presentation. If you have a comment or question, please provide me with your call sign, slowly, clearly, and phonetically so I don't make a mistake when I respond. And then ask your question or provide me with your comment.

This is WA1RYQ.

**[PAUSING FOR QUESTIONS]**

## 1.7 CONCLUSION.

That's all I have for this week's training session.

I'd like to remind everyone who is interested in Winlink training that this Wednesday, August 11<sup>th</sup>, at 1930 hours local, I will be hosting a Zoom training session for Winlink.

Again, if you are interested in taking part in Winlink digital training, please send me an email. I will be sending a Zoom invite tomorrow morning to everyone who has registered for the training.

I can be contacted via email at [WA1RYQ@arrl.net](mailto:WA1RYQ@arrl.net). My contact information is also available on the Pinellas ACS Web site.

Now with that, I'll turn it back to Net Control.



1.8 QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS.

The following table contains a summary of the comments and questions provided by the membership during the presentation.

<b>No.</b>	<b>Call Sign</b>	<b>Comments</b>	<b>Response</b>
		No questions or comments received during the net.	