

## **North Shore ARES Notification #1 - Nor'easter / Ice Storm 12/11-12/12/08**

### **OVERVIEW**

North Shore ARES has been placed on stand-by status by KB1KQW and KA1NCF effective Friday afternoon, December 12<sup>th</sup> at 12:30pm. A significant coastal storm continues to affect the region with countless damage reports / power outages. Communities affected in Essex County include, but are not limited to, Methuen / Lawrence / Groveland / Amesbury / Haverhill / Merrimac / Andover / North Andover. Power restoration has the potential to take several days and is not expected until Monday at the earliest.

We have heard about entire communities without power in central and western MA into Northeast MA, countless trees and tree limbs down, and roads impassable. Several local states of emergency are currently in effect in Northern Essex / Middlesex counties and points west.

Numerous communities in New Hampshire remain affected as well.

States of Emergency are in effect for all of Massachusetts and New Hampshire.

The rest of Eastern Massachusetts ARES has been placed on stand-by status beginning Thursday evening as well. Please see [ares.ema.arrrl.org](http://ares.ema.arrrl.org) for further information on that as well as through messages issued to this e-mail list.

### **TIMEFRAME OF ACTIVATION / FREQUENCIES**

As of this point in time, North Shore ARES will activate in stand-by mode beginning Friday morning, December 12<sup>th</sup>, at 12:30 lasting through Sunday evening - subject to change. We expect to monitor the storm throughout the evening into Friday morning. All operations continue to take place on the 145.470 Danvers repeater, and the 442.800 Danvers Repeater as an alternate. The Salem repeater may also be required should the Danvers sites be unavailable.

Simplex communications could take place on the output of the 145.47 Danvers repeater in the event of repeater failure.

Please continue to report damage and updates on your community through the 145.47 Repeater and provide pictures as necessary.

### **STORM / EVENT INFORMATION**

Please refer to the latest statements from NWS-Taunton in regards to this storm system. While most warnings have now expired with precipitation leaving the area, the effects of the storm remain. Please refer to [www.weather.gov/boston](http://www.weather.gov/boston) for more information on this impending storm system or continue to monitor the SKYWARN repeaters.

The NWS-Taunton and NWS-Gray Local Storm Reports and Public Information Statements are available at [www.weather.gov/boston](http://www.weather.gov/boston) or [www.weather.gov/gray](http://www.weather.gov/gray).

There is the chance of some light snow to affect the area later today, and standing water will freeze overnight making travel even more hazardous.

FEMA has requested pictures of the damage. Please send pictures to [pics@nsradio.org](mailto:pics@nsradio.org) when able to do so.

#### **AGENCY SUPPORT**

The most likely support may be in the form of ARES-MAT assistance should significant damage occur. This situation will be monitored closely by the North Shore ARES Leadership.

At this time, we have not been contacted by Red Cross chapter officials either from Massachusetts Bay or Northeast Massachusetts.

Amesbury Emergency Management has called in all their communications staff for possible evacuations of locations without power but support of their operations has not been requested. Several shelters are open across the region.

WE HAVE NOT YET RECEIVED ANY REQUESTS FOR SUPPORT, HOWEVER WE NEED TO BE READY IF REQUESTS ARRIVE.

#### **REQUEST FOR AVAILABILITY**

We are seeking available stations to assist with various operations that may arise during the storm. Some of these operations may include mobile operations, base operations, net control stations, and field ARES opportunities, which will be refined in the near future. Please let us know if you are available Sunday through Tuesday, along with specific times and means to contact you. We will let you know if services beyond SKYWARN are required, and contact you accordingly. Remember, please **DO NOT SELF DEPLOY!** It is just as high an honor to submit your readiness as it is to work in the field. Please send your availability to [ares@nsradio.org](mailto:ares@nsradio.org) or report to the 47 repeater and we will add you to the list. I would like to have everyone's availability coordinated ASAP, if possible, so that we are ready to go.

#### **CALL TO ACTION**

Again, we are not specifically calling stations into action, other than the need for availability. As we continue to work through this storm...we are in need of the following items:

Net Control Volunteers

Traditional SKYWARN Criteria

Pictures of the above as requested by FEMA (VERY important - send to pics @ nsradio.org)

Possible shelter operations

Possible ARES-MAT Assistance

Any Red Cross requests for assistance  
Other emergency communications duties as requested

Please send your availability to [ares@nsradio.org](mailto:ares@nsradio.org) or check in with the SKYWARN or ARES representative on the 145.47 Danvers repeater.

#### **SUMMARY**

- \* North Shore ARES is on stand-by activation at this time beginning Thursday evening at 20:00 to support SKYWARN and ARES operations that may be required
- \* Stations are urged to read up on SKYWARN criteria and be prepared to report as required to the Danvers repeater
- \* Pictures of damage or coastal flooding are requested by FEMA from this event, please send to [pics@nsradio.org](mailto:pics@nsradio.org)
- \* This message will be updated some time later Friday evening, time and information permitting

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