



Temple Amateur Radio Club  
P.O. Box 616  
Temple, TX 76503

[www.tarc.org](http://www.tarc.org)

*W5LM Repeaters*  
*146.820 MHz (PL 123.0)*  
*444.700 MHz (PL 123.0)*

June 2024

# Bulletin of the Temple Amateur Radio Club

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N5ZXJ

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**BE SURE TO CHECK INTO THE MONDAY NIGHT NET!**

**Club Meeting Thursday June 6th 7:00 P.M**  
**Western Hills Church of Christ**  
**210 N General Bruce Dr**  
**Temple, TX 76504**

Field Day June 22nd and 23rd

TARC is planning to participate in the ARRL Field Day on Saturday June 22nd. Details such as location were still being worked out at the time this bulletin went out.

Please attend the TARC club meeting on Thursday June 6th for more information.



## **ARRL Volunteers Obtain Ham Exemption to Pennsylvania Handsfree Law**

ARRL volunteers in Pennsylvania have successfully protected the legal right to use amateur radio while operating mobile within the state. A handsfree distracted driving bill had worked its way through the legislature over the past several years, and ARRL Atlantic Division Director Bob Famiglio, K3RF, successfully advocated for an exemption for licensed radio amateurs. "The bill survived until just before the latest vote, which stripped out our exemption but left in exemptions for commercial drivers, including truck drivers, bus drivers, and public transportation [drivers]," he wrote in a message to ARRL members in Pennsylvania.

In April, the exemption was stripped from the bill, sending Pennsylvania hams into a state of worry. ARRL members in the state rallied, contacting their state legislators to explain the benefit that licensed operators provide to the state. The bill also was going to remove the ability for first responders, such as volunteer firefighters, to use radios in their personally owned vehicles. "Hundreds of emails then went out to legislators and such and back to me. We also helped our volunteer emergency responders who were in the same boat as us with radio use from their personal cars. Many members are also emergency responders as well, and they picked up on this too," said Famiglio.

This week, the Pennsylvania House of Representatives voted in favor of accepting the bill with the exemption. The senate passed it last summer. The bill is now on its way to Governor Josh Shapiro's desk, where he is expected to sign it. Mobile use of amateur radio will continue in Pennsylvania, thanks to ARRL advocacy and government relations carried out by member-volunteers.

## **FCC Opens Comments About CME Comms Impacts**

The Federal Communications Commission's Public Safety and Homeland Security Bureau wants to know if you noticed any impacts to radio communications during the storm. In a public notice, the FCC wrote:

*To better understand the impacts of the geomagnetic storm on the U.S. communications sector, the Bureau is requesting information from communications service providers and the public regarding disruptions in communications between May 7 and 11, 2024, that it believes to be a result of the storm. The Bureau is encouraging commenters to provide any available evidence, particularly electromagnetic spectrum analyses, imagery, or chronological logs relating the storm's impacts. Where possible, the Bureau asks that commenters include the description of the impacts; make and model of affected communications equipment, which could include transmitters, receivers, transceivers, switches, routers, amplifiers etc.; make, model, and type of affected antennae and their composition; frequencies affected; type and composition of cable adjoining communications equipment and the antennae, if applicable; duration of the impact; and any residual effects observed in the hours following restoration.*

The public notice is [at this link](#) (PDF). Comments may be submitted using the FCC's Electronic Comment Filing System (ECFS) at <https://www.fcc.gov/ecfs> and referring to PS Docket No. 24-161. ARRL's guide to filing comments is at this link: <https://www.arrl.org/arrl-guide-to-filing-comments-with-fcc>.

## The 2024 ARRL Kids Day event will take place June 15 and June 22 – 23

Kids Day is designed to give on-the-air experience to young people and foster interest in getting a license of their own. It is also intended to give older hams a chance to share their station and love for amateur radio with the children in their lives. Kids Day always runs from 1800 UTC through 2359 UTC, and you operate as much or as little as you like. The suggested frequencies for Kids Day are:

**10 Meters:** 28.350 to 28.400 MHz

**12 Meters:** 24.960 to 24.980 MHz

**15 Meters:** 21.360 to 21.400 MHz

**17 Meters:** 18.140 to 18.145 MHz

**20 Meters:** 14.270 to 14.300 MHz

**40 Meters:** 7.270 to 7.290 MHz

**80 Meters:** 3.740 to 3.940 MHz

You can also use your favorite local repeater with permission of the repeater's sponsor. Be sure to observe third-party restrictions when making DX QSOs. All participants are eligible to receive a colorful certificate. You can [download this certificate](#) and complete it with the participant's name and date of the contact. Visit [Kids Day \(arrl.org\)](#) for more information.