

# PLATTE COUNTY AMATEUR RADIO GROUP



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## Press Release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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### PLATTE COUNTY AMATEUR RADIO GROUP HOSTS ARRL FIELD DAY

PLATTE CITY, MO, JUNE 25-26, 2011

The **Platte County Amateur Radio Group** will be hosting their 7<sup>th</sup> annual American Radio Relay League (ARRL) **Field Day** on Saturday, June 25 and Sunday, June 26. **Field Day** is a 24-hour event to be held this year at the **Northland Regional Ambulance District (NRAD)** headquarters building in Platte City, MO. The **NRAD** HQ is located at **1000 Platte Falls Road** in **Platte City**, behind the **True Value™** hardware store and adjacent to the Platte County R-3 Board of Education building in Platte City.

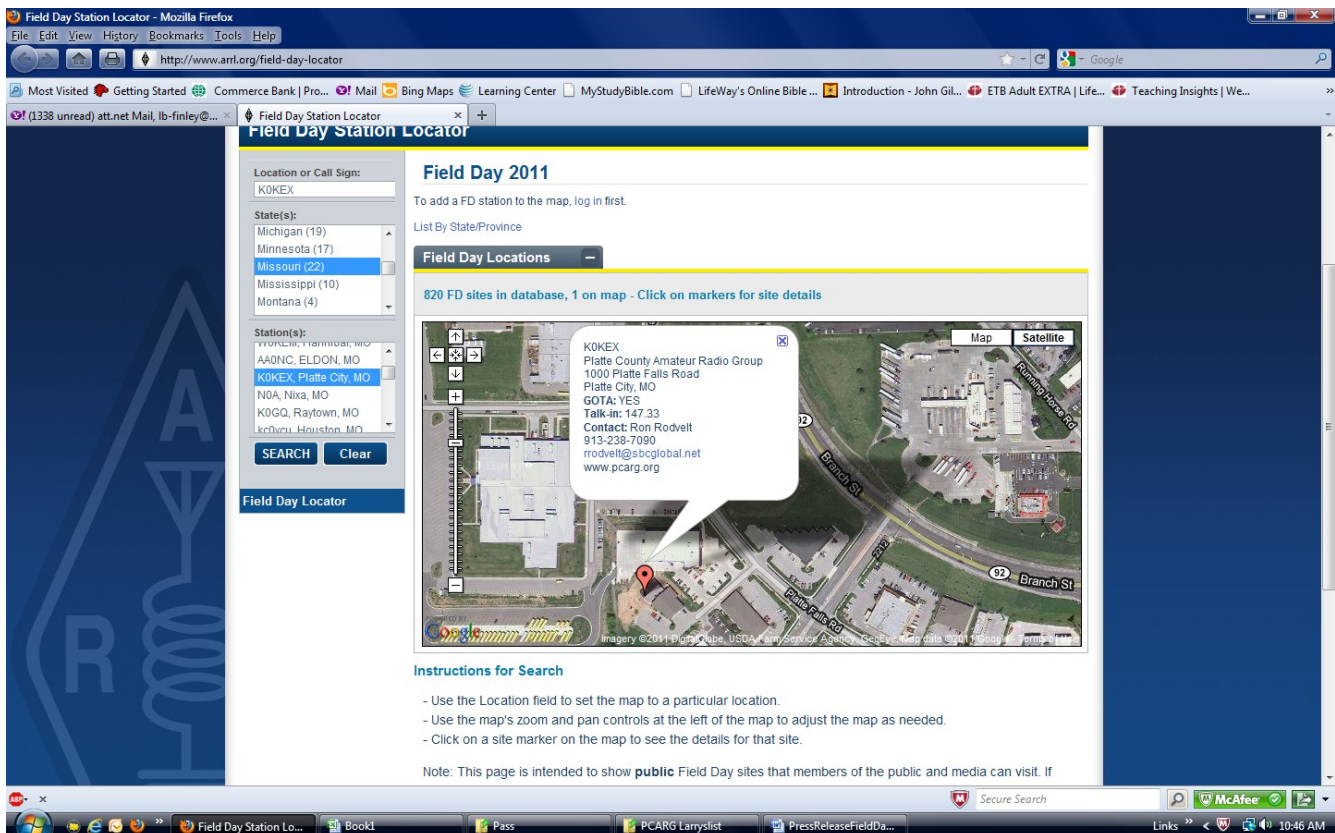
The **FIELD DAY** event is held annually to ensure personnel and equipment readiness & availability in the event of an emergency or natural disaster. Recent severe weather around the nation and possible flooding on the Missouri River has increased the importance of this year's **Field Day**.

The general public is invited to attend the Field Day activities, visit the site and observe this demonstration of emergency action services. There is no charge for admission. Licensed Amateur Radio operators (Hams) will begin broadcasting at 1pm on Saturday and will broadcast continually on a variety of amateur radio frequencies until 1pm on Sunday.

PCARG members will begin setting up at 7am on Saturday the 25<sup>th</sup>. Setup will include erecting broadcasting towers and antennae and powering on the NRAD generator for testing. There will be three broadcasting stations set up for Field Day participation, plus a **GOTA**—"Get On The Air" station for public demonstration. The **GOTA** station will allow the general public to experience firsthand how amateur radio works and ask questions without interrupting the Field Day broadcasts.

Amateur radio operators have played a vital part in establishing communication during recent natural disasters as seen in Joplin, MO, Sedalia, MO, and previously this past

spring in Alabama, Mississippi and Massachusetts. Radio operators in these locations established communication networks to spread information and aid in directing rescue workers & relief personnel to areas needing assistance. Within hours of the onset of the tornado in Joplin, "Hams" were the link between the emergency hospital setup in Joplin and hospitals in Springfield, MO, and other locations, providing information about damages and resources needed in the area.



ARRL Website link to PCARG's Field Day location with address and contact links at <http://www.arrl.org/field-day-locator>

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