



# What is the Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES)?

The Amateur Radio Emergency Service® (ARES) consists of licensed amateurs who have voluntarily registered their qualifications and equipment, with their local ARES leadership, for communications duty in the public service when disaster strikes.

How can I get involved?

Polk County ARES is looking for licensed operators to work as Shelter Station Operators, EOC Station Operators, Net Control Operators, Skywarn Operators, and Deployable Volunteers. When an event occurs in Polk County or elsewhere, our communication skills may be needed to assure communications occur.

## Where can I get more information?

On the Web, visit <https://polkares.org>. There you will find information on membership, our weekly nets, meeting details, and news regarding emergency communications by radio amateurs in Polk County, FL.

Join us on the air during our weekly net!

Please check into our Imperial Polk County ARES net on Wednesday nights at 7:00 PM local time. The WC4PEM repeater system has four locations around the county: Dundee 146.985/-, Frostproof 444.950/+, Davenport 444.625/+, and Kathleen 443.900/+. All require a 127.3 PL tone. The net is open to all radio amateurs and everyone is encouraged to participate.

Why not join us at one of our monthly meetings?

You're also welcome to join us on the fourth Thursday of each month and meet in person. The meetings are open to all Amateur Radio Operators, CERT members, and those interested in serving communications needs in the Polk County area during a disaster.

We meet at the POLK COUNTY EMERGENCY OPERATIONS CENTER, 1890 Jim Keene Boulevard, Winter Haven, FL, off of Winter Lake Road (County Road 540). Doors open 6:30 pm and our program is from 7:00 pm to 8:00 pm. Our meetings are a time to organize, train, and communicate with one another.

