



2026 TN ARES SET
Central United States Earthquake Consortium
Great Shake Out - "Did you feel it"
15OCT2026

EXERCISE EXERCISE EXERCISE

The 2026 Tennessee Amateur Radio Emergency Service (TN ARES) simulated emergency training (SET) will be held in conjunction with the Great Shakeout Exercise coordinated by the Central United States Earthquake Consortium (CUSEC) 16OCT2025 as a service to the U.S Geological Survey (USGS). This will be the third year TN ARES has participated. **Part One** is for ARRL ARES appointees. **Parts Two** and **Three** are open to all amateur radio operators.

Part One of the exercise will be initiation and reinforcement of **RELATIONSHIPS** with your counties **Authorities Having Jurisdiction (AHJs)**.

Part Two of the exercise will enable participants to satisfy the CUSEC requirement for reporting the Did-you-feel it? message via Winlink using a special template. See the explanation from Oliver Dully, K6OLI, at this link, <https://www.laxnortheast.org/exercises/shakeout/dyfi> for instructions on how to submit the Winlink message and directions for viewing your received message on a map. Let's light up Tennessee with responses.

Part Three of the exercise requires a check in to the Tennessee 3.980 Phone Net (TPN). The TPN is affiliated with the National Traffic System (NTS). The Radiogram Portal, <https://nts2.arrl.org/radiogram/>, is a relatively recent addition to the ARRL website and allows even non-amateur radio operators to send messages via the NTS/TPN.

PART ONE

The primary **AHJ** for ARES is the emergency manager or designee of the county in which we reside or to which we are invited to render aid. The emergency management agency (EMA) Director is responsible for coordinating and supporting the efforts of all responding resources for an incident. Within that group of resources there are other potential service opportunities for ARES: State and local departments of health; healthcare coalitions representing a broad spectrum of healthcare providers; public safety entities and many others.



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In the equation for communications interoperability success RELATIONSHIPS are the multiplier. Positive RELATIONSHIPS are best established before the occurrence of an emergent event requiring our communication services. The first step in establishing a RELATIONSHIP is identification of those individuals or organizations with whom we wish to collaborate or support. This exercise will provide an opportunity for you to take that first step with potential **AHJs** in your county. Many of you have already taken the first step and have a good relationship with your served agencies but for those who haven't, this is your opportunity.

The goal of the following exercise step is to have the ARES Emergency Coordinator (EC) become aware of and acquainted with the potential **AHJs** (customers) in their county, to retain the information gathered for future reference and to begin the establishment of a RELATIONSHIP with the appropriate entities.

Participants will keep track of their scores and send the total points earned for each AHJ* contacted to aj4no@winlink.org with your name, callsign, ARES Group (if any), name of AHJ with organization. Point totals will be calculated by the operator.

Points are earned as described in the table below. **Items 1-6 apply to Part One only.**

ITEM	Contact Method	Points
1	In-person	20
2	ZOOM, TEAMS, etc.	15
3	Phone, with response	10
4	EMAIL, with response	10
5	Text, with response	5
6	Establish a memorandum of understanding or other collaboration document	50
7	Send a Winlink message to SHAKEOUT per instructions	20
8	Establish contact with the 3.980 TN Phone Net	20
9	Establish contact with the 3.980 TN 3980	20



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	CW Net	
10	Send a message through the radiogram portal	20

Points will be given for completed contacts with the following as they provide a rough estimate of AHJ accessibility and openness to collaboration with ARES and give an opportunity for amateur operators to increase their familiarity with additional communication modes:

*NOTE: In addition to those listed, any AHJ (i.e. Knoxville Covenant Health Marathon Director, Jack and Back Bicycle Event Director, Cornbread Festival Director, World's Biggest Fish Fry Director, town official, Optimist Club, etc.) who has requested assistance from your ARES group may be included using the same points schedule.

1.1 Locate the EMA Director for your county at <https://www.tn.gov/tema>

Scroll down to Contact Your Local EMA. Under Regions, select your Region, find your EMA Director's contact information and establish and document your contact with that individual.

Sample script: Director [last name}, my name is [ARES member name], I am the ICS-trained Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES) Emergency Coordinator for [your county name]. My role and that of my group is to offer you auxiliary communications support, when requested, using our local ICS-trained amateur radio operators with access to a network of trained operators in surrounding counties. I am participating in the CUSIC 2026 Great Shakeout Exercise and one goal of TN ARES for the exercise is to contact my local EMA Director. After the exercise I would request a meeting with you at your convenience to learn more about your requirements for ICS-trained amateur



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radio operators and to describe the capabilities we have for provision of auxiliary communications and other volunteer services.

1.2 Locate the Healthcare Coalition member(s) for your county by contacting your Tennessee Regional Healthcare Coordinator from the list below:

Regional Healthcare Coalitions

Region 1 — Northeast Tennessee Healthcare Preparedness Coalition

Regional Healthcare Coordinators

Keisha Fletcher (*Metro*)

Phone: (423) 279-2691

Email: KFletcher@sullivanhealth.org

Tony Wright (*Regional*)

Phone: (423) 979-4633

Email: Anthony.Wright@tn.gov

Region 2 — Knox/East Tennessee Healthcare Coalition

Regional Healthcare Coordinators

John Brinkley (*Metro*)

Phone: (865) 215-5456

Email: John.Brinkley@knoxcounty.org

Wanda Roberts (*Regional*)

Phone: (865) 549-5294

Email: ETRHC.Health@tn.gov



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Region 3 — Southeast Tennessee Healthcare Coalition

Regional Healthcare Coordinators

Ken Tartar (*Regional*)
Phone: (423) 260-1110
Email: Kenneth.T.Tartar@tn.gov

Region 4 — Upper Cumberland Healthcare Preparedness Coalition

Regional Healthcare Coordinator

Michael Cooper (*Regional*)
Phone: (423) 718-8682
Email: Michael.Cooper@tn.gov

Region 5 — Tennessee Highland Rim Healthcare Coalition

Regional Healthcare Coordinators

Mac McCormick (*Metro*)
Phone: (615) 767-7597
Email: Mac.McCormick@nashville.gov

Jana Tolleson (*Regional*)
Phone: (615) 210-2739

Region 6 - South Central Region Healthcare Coalition

Regional Healthcare Coordinator

Candace Wilkes (*Regional*)
Phone: (931) 490-8369
Email: Candace.Wilkes@tn.gov

Vulnerable Populations Coordinator

Christina Gerstein
Phone: (615) 428-2797
Email: Christina.Gerstein@tn.gov



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Region 7 — WATCH Coalition

Regional Healthcare Coordinators

Keith Middleton (*Metro*)

Phone: (731) 437-3077

Email: KMiddleton@madisoncountyttn.gov

Ginger Rodgers (Regional)

Phone: (731) 343-5383

Email: Ginger.Rodgers@tn.gov

Region 8 — Mid-South Emergency Planning Coalition

Vulnerable Populations Coordinator

Sandiyan AL Hayali

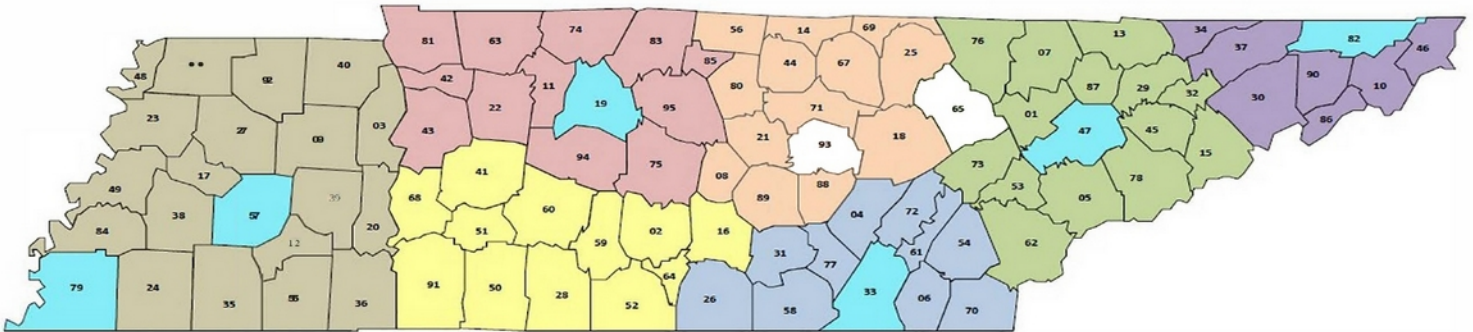
Phone: (615) 961-2243

Email: SALHayali@midsouthepc.org



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TN Department of Health - Regional & Metro Areas



West		Mid Cumberland		South Central		Southeast		Upper Cumberland		East		North East	
#	Countv	#	Countv	#	Countv	#	Countv	#	County	#	Countv	#	County
3	Benton	11	Cheatham	2	Bedford	4	Bledsoe	8	Cannon	1	Anderson	10	Carter
9	Carroll	22	Dickson	16	Coffee	6	Bradley	14	Clay	5	Blount	30	Greene
12	Chester	42	Houston	28	Giles	26	Franklin	18	Cumberland	7	Campbell	34	Hancock
17	Crockett	43	Humphreys	41	Hickman	31	Grundy	21	DeKalb	13	Claiborne	37	Hawkins
20	Decatur	63	Montgomery	50	Lawrence	54	McMinn	25	Fentress	15	Cocke	46	Johnson
23	Dyer	74	Robertson	51	Lewis	58	Marion	44	Jackson	29	Grainger	86	Unicoi
24	Fayette	75	Rutherford	52	Lincoln	61	Meigs	56	Macon	32	Hamblen	90	Washington
27	Gibson	81	Stewart	59	Marshall	70	Polk	67	Overton	45	Jefferson		
35	Hardeman	83	Sumner	60	Mauvy	72	Rhea	69	Pickett	53	Loudon		
36	Hardin	85	Trousdale	64	Moore	77	Seauatchie	71	Putnam	62	Monroe		
38	Haywood	94	Williamson	68	Perry			80	Smith	73	Roane	#	METROS County
39	Henderson	95	Wilson	91	Wayne			88	Van Buren	76	Scott	19	Davidson
40	Henry							89	Warren	78	Sevier	33	Hamilton
48	Lake									87	Union	47	Knox
49	Lauderdale											57	Madison
55	McNairy											79	Shelby
66	Obion											82	Sullivan
84	Tipton												
92	Weakley												

The Metro Health Departments report to their municipality while maintaining a close collaboration with the State Regional Health Departments in the other counties.

Your Regional Healthcare Coalition is an excellent entry point for communicating your emergency communications capabilities to the members of the healthcare communities in your county.



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Examples:

The Knox/East Tennessee Regional Healthcare Coalition (K/ETRHC) uses the Middle East Tennessee Emergency Radio Service (METERS Inc.) as Net Manager for the Tennessee Department of Health (TDH) Region 16 and K/ETRHC Hospital Net on the last Friday of each month. The net serves to validate interoperability between the net control station and the hospitals and provides a monthly operational readiness review for the amateur radio equipment at each site. ARES groups in counties around the region, TN ARES District 8, provide the amateur operators to staff the net.

K/ETRHC partnered with the Lakeway Amateur Radio Club, an ARRL-affiliated club, to field a fully equipped communications trailer for use by coalition members across TDH Region 16 and Knox County. Many Coalitions, including Northeast, have similar arrangements with ARES groups in their regions and have partnered with them to provide communication resources.

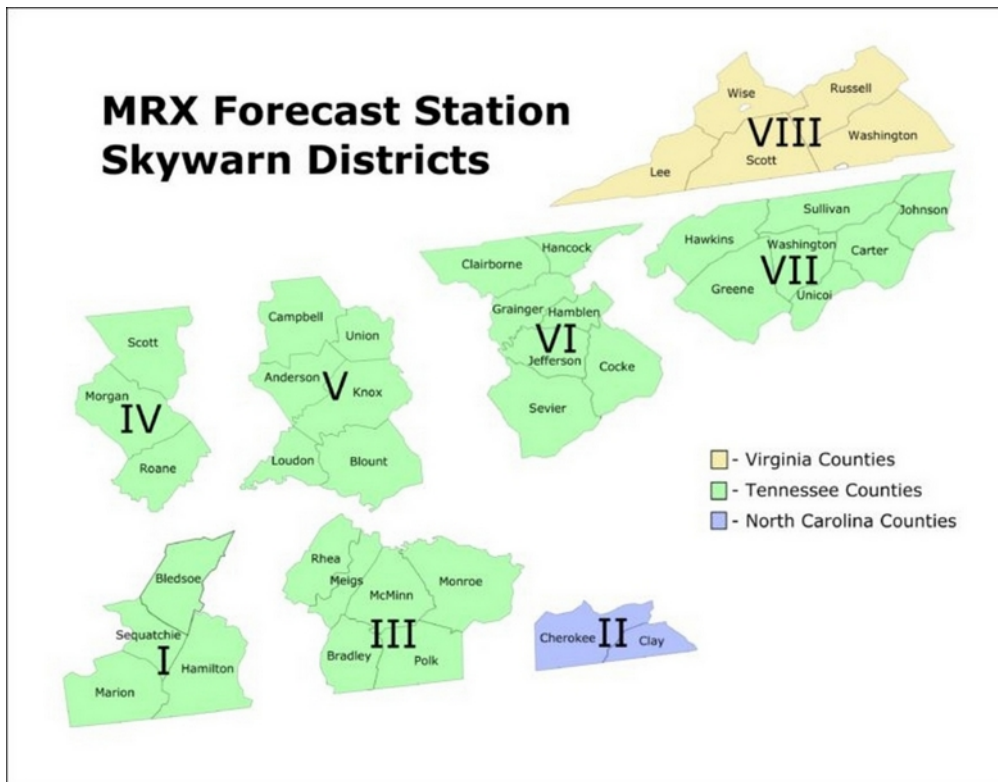


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1.3 Contact the SKYWARN District Coordinator for your county.

Contact your county's SKYWARN coordinator.

Explain you are participating in the CUSIC 2026 Great ShakeOut Exercise and a TN ARES inject requested that you contact them and explain that in your role as a TN ARES Emergency Coordinator for your county you have resources to support SKYWARN nets. TN ARES encourages close collaboration with and support for SKYWARN nets under the memorandum of understanding between the National Weather Service and the American Radio Relay League. It is a good preparedness

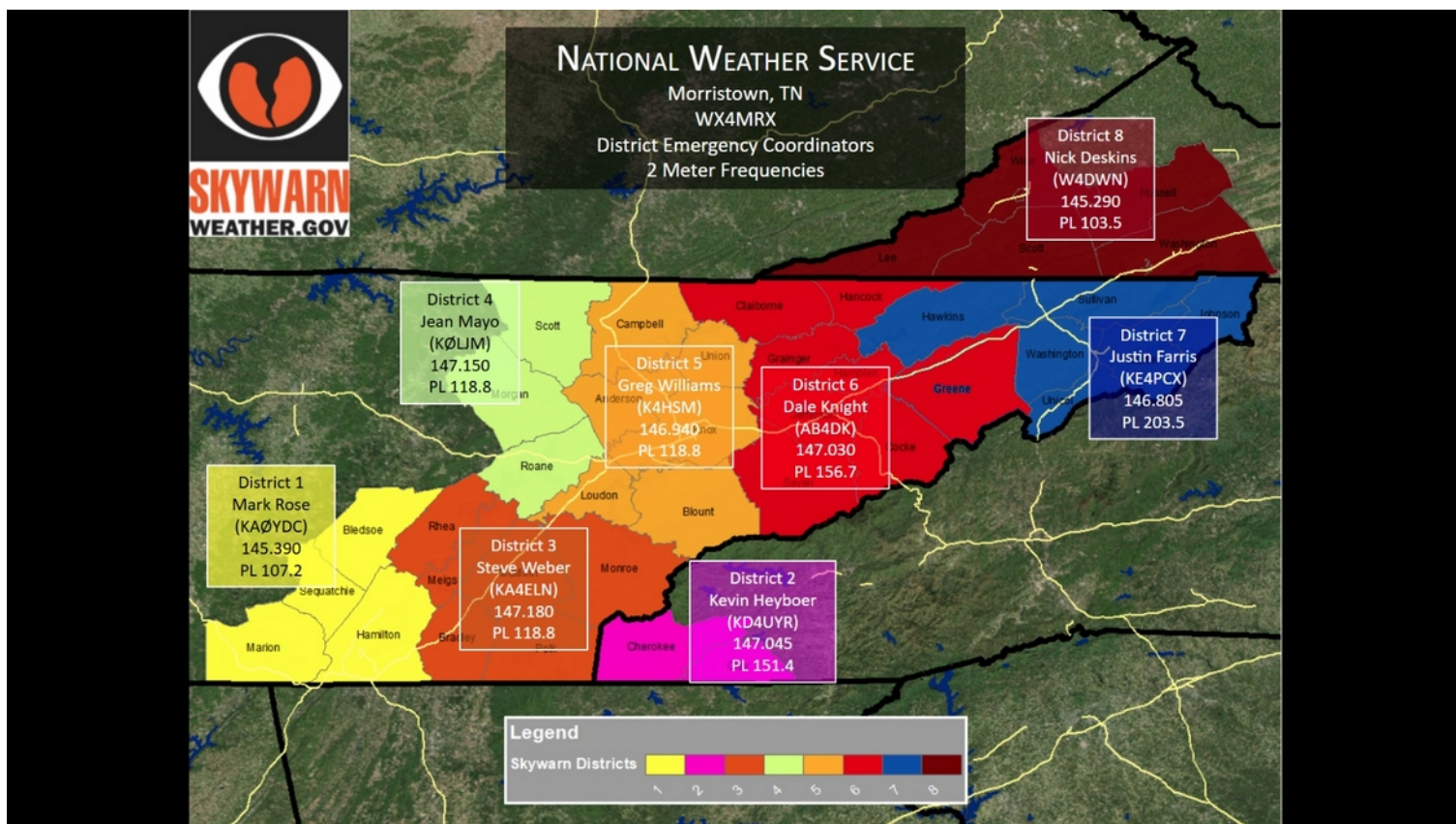


step to introduce the players to one another before an incident.



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NOTE: The District 5 PL tone for 146.940 is 156.7 not 118.8



SKYWARN Districts in Tennessee

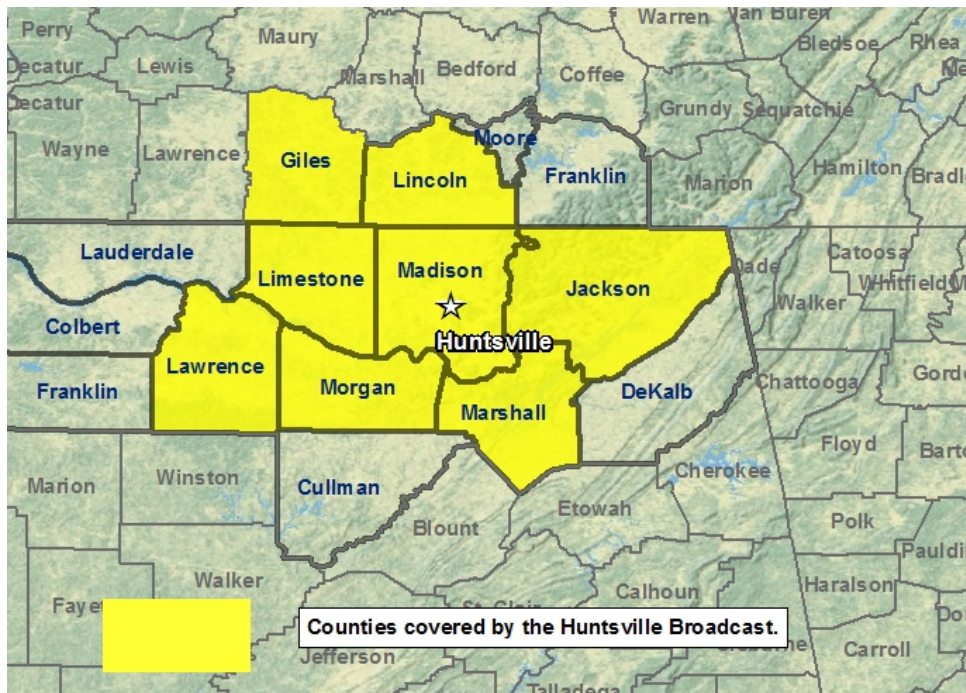
- 1 Contacts for NWS Morristown, MRX, covered counties can be obtained here:
Anthony Cavallucci, anthony.cavallucci@noaa.gov , KF7TNC
Warning Coordination Meteorologist



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Contacts for NWS Nashville, OHX, covered counties and coordinators may be obtained here: krissy.hurley@noaa.gov , Meteorologist-in-Charge

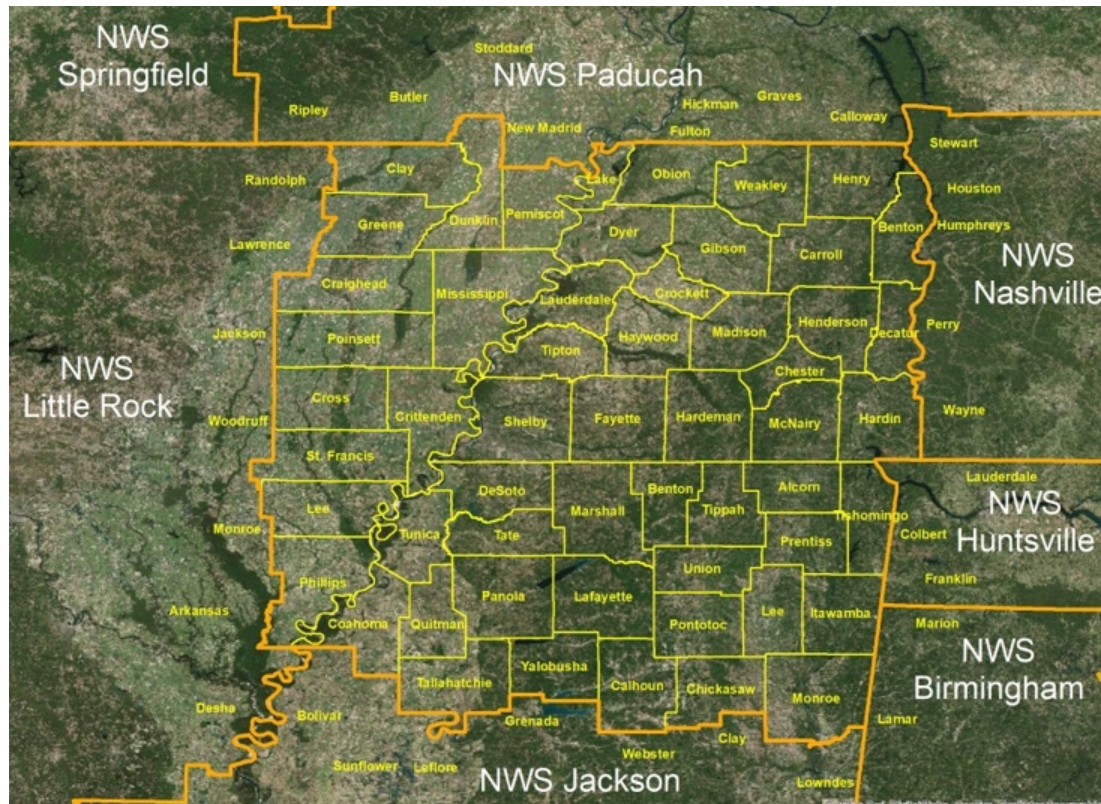
Contacts for NWS Huntsville, AL, HUD, North Alabama and Southern Tennessee SKYWARN (**Franklin, Lincoln, Moore counties in TN**) may be obtained by calling 256-890-8503 and asking for Kate Guillet or the Warning Coordination Meteorologist.





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Contacts for NWS Memphis, MEG, Warning Coordination Meteorologist
(WCM): [Todd Beal](mailto:todd.beal@noaa.gov), todd.beal@noaa.gov (901) 544-0399



PART TWO

This portion of the exercise will focus on the use of Winlink and a special template to notify the United States Geological Survey (USGS) of ground truth conditions in your immediate area following a major earthquake. Information describing CUSEC and the annual earthquake exercise is available at <https://www.shakeout.org/faq/>

Use the link at <https://www.shakeout.org/register/> to register for the event. TN ARES is already registered as ARRL TN ARES and may be used as your



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organization. You could also register in your name or as TN ARES/[your group name]. Example: TN ARES/Dickson County ARES.

It is important that you follow all instructions in the Winlink portion for filling out the DYFI form. Remember this is an exercise and a test of the notification system. As a result, the instructions will document the fact that you participated but the data requested may be prescribed to satisfy procedural requirements and not necessarily reality.

Follow these instructions to prepare and send your message.

Sending a Winlink Message to SHAKEOUT

Step-by-Step Instructions

Open Winlink Express

Launch the Winlink Express program on your computer.

Create a New Message

Click on "New Message" to start composing a new email.

Select the Template

Go to the menu bar and click on "Select Template."

Expand the "Standard Templates" section.

Expand the "USGS" section.

Double-click on "USGS DYFI.txt" to open the template.

Fill Out the DYFI Form



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Exercise ID: Enter "SHAKEOUT" (no spaces).

Did you feel it? Select "Yes."

Intensity: Choose a Mercalli Intensity of V (5) or higher.

Comments: Include details about how you sent the message (e.g., mode, band, and any additional comments).

Add Recipients

**The To: field will automatically populate with
dyfi_reports_automated@usgs.gov;**

In the "Cc" field, add the following addresses:

SHAKEOUT; ETO-DRILL; WLNET-OE; Aj4no@winlink.org

See Oliver Dully video for additional information.

<https://www.laxnortheast.org/exercises/shakeout/dyfi>

Send the Message

Review your message for accuracy.

Click "Send" to submit your DYFI report.

Important Notes

Ensure your Winlink application is updated before sending.



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You can send your report at the designated time (10:16 AM local time on October 15, 2026) or later in the day but make sure to enter the correct date and time on the form.

This exercise helps provide valuable data to the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) for earthquake monitoring.

Your contributions will reflect well on you, your organization and amateur radio. Many thanks to the Radio Safety Foundation and the Winlink development team for their customer responsiveness and for the impressive technical functionality they have contributed to the ever-increasing challenge of ensuring our collective safety.

View your report on the US map

<https://439138944-atari-embeds.googleusercontent.com/embeds/0c327be859b966d45ca349fc63f26731/inner-frame-minified.html?jsh=m%3B%2F%2Fscs%2Fabc-static%2F%2Fjs%2Fk%3Dgapi.lb.en.gh7qIZtzO5w.O%2Fd%3D1%2Frs%3DAHpOoo84YKT1RVy0T6hcXi5rH3LooB1WCw%2Fm%3D%2Ffeatures%2Fyour-report>

PART THREE

The TPN 3980 Phone Net Schedule:

3980 kHz Mon-Fri | 5:40 AM, 6:45 AM, & 6:30 PM Sat | 7 AM & 6:30 PM Sun & Holidays | 7 AM All times Central. The evening phone net meets one hour earlier during standard time in the winter due to band conditions. If you have HF capability, check into the TPN before 1NOV2026 and identify with your name, callsign and TN ARES when your county is called.



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CW Net Schedule: 3562 kHz Mon-Sat | 7 PM. Follow the same directions above to check in to the CW net.

SUMMARY for CUSEC Great ShakeOut-TN ARES SET 16OCT2025

PARTICIPANTS:

- ARES Emergency Coordinators in Tennessee.
- Other ARES appointed personnel, ARES members and all amateur radio operators are encouraged to participate.

DATE: 15OCT2026

TIME: 1016 Local or any time during the day.

TASKS: See instructions

INSTRUCTIONS:

Part One:

- Contact **AHJs** (EMA and Healthcare) and SKYWARN Coordinator for your county and others.
- List requested information for each contact
- Document results in Winlink message to aj4no@winlink.org
- Response due **1NOV2026**

Part Two:

- Prepare a Winlink message with DYFI template to document ground truth
In your area. Submit on 15OCT2026
- Add SHAKEOUT; ETO-DRILL; aj4no@winlink.org to your CC:



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- Winlink message due **15OCT2026**. See **Sending a Winlink Message to SHAKEOUT** above for details.
- View your input on US map at:
https://439138944-atari-embeds.googleusercontent.com/embeds/0c327be859b966d45ca349fc63f26731/inner-frame-minified.html?jsh=m%3B%2F%2Fscs%2Fabc-static%2F%2Fjs%2Fk%3Dgapi.lb.en.gh7qIZtZO5w.O%2Fd%3D1%2Frs%3DAHpOoo84YKT1RVy0T6hcXi5rH3LooB1WCw%2Fm%3D_features_#your-report

Part Three:

- Connect with the 3980 TN Phone Net by phone on 15OCT2026. Check in as often as you can after the exercise. 20 points for initial contact.
- Connect with the 3980 CW net before **15OCT2026**
- Send a Radiogram to your EC or DEC via the portal before **30OCT2025**
- Point summary due **1NOV2026** to aj4no@winlink.org

If you have difficulty with any portion of the exercise, please contact your EC, DEC or ASEC. Contact information for those individuals is available on TNARES.COM.

Thank you for participating in this exercise. Be prepared.

73,

Jim, AJ4NO
TN ARES SEC

Special thanks to LAXNORTHEAST and Oliver Dully, K6OLI, for the mapping capability, the DYFI YouTube video and many other excellent amateur radio resources.

Amateur Radio Community Intensity Map (ARCIM):
<https://www.laxnortheast.org/exercises/shakeout#h.xhx2wnlildmu>



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REAL WORLD WEATHER STATEMENT:

9OCT2026 Hurricane ISAIAS is on the move. MTEARS net schedule is in place if needed per N4CLO. Currently monitoring MS and LA HF nets.

TN is expected to receive wind and rain. ECs contact their members and advise them to be weather aware. Support any MTEARS or SKYWARN nets as they come online.

See something, Say something. Stay safe.

Lesson learned from Helene: These things can change direction.