

Cupertino ARES 2020 Field Day

Posted by Darryl KI6LDM, 1 June 2020

In the past several years, California has seen a series of destructive wild fires, mud slides and other related catastrophic disasters. One critical component of being prepared for natural or man-made disasters is communications. Being able to get urgent medical aid, requesting much needed supplies, and providing the city and county with the current status of the city, are all vital during the initial stages following a disaster. During the October PG&E Safety Power Shutoff (PSPS), vital communication infrastructures -- cell phone, Internet and land lines failed during the power outage.

This is where the Cupertino Amateur Radio Emergency Services (CARES) comes in. CARES is a group of amateur radio volunteers who supports the City of Cupertino and the county of Santa Clara with emergency backup communications when commercial or other forms of communications either do not exist or are significantly degraded. CARES provided backup communication for residences of the city impacted by the PSPS. For more details on how CARES served Cupertino during the PSPS, see: <http://paara.org/newsletter/2019/graph1119.pdf>. Look for the article titled: "Do Hams Still Matter?"

CARES will be participating in this year's Amateur Radio Relay League (www.arrl.org) sponsored Field Day. Field Day is a national annual event where amateur radio operators (hams) across the country make as many contacts with in a 24-hour period. Due to COVID-19, CARES will not be setting up a public display for public viewing but will be participating in Field Day virtually. If you're interested in amateur radio and want to listen to Field Day communications, you can do so over the internet at: <http://www.websdr.org/> and choose KFS WebSDR HF receiver on the Pacific Coast to listen from. For further details about Field Day, see: <http://www.arrl.org/field-day>.

When: June 27, 2020 starting at 11:00am Pacific.

For further information about CARES, see: <https://www.cupertinoares.org/>