



September 2025

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Next meeting is September 16, 2025 Social hour is from 1800 meeting starts at 1830. Talk-in is on 147.180+ meeting will be at the Bridgewater public library.

ON THE AIR

Presidents Message

President's Message:

The annual club cookout at Rick, KB1TEE was a great success, great turn out. I would like to thank Rick and Patty for hosting the cookout. The next event will be an open house on September 14 from 12 to 2 at the Stanley Ironworks Park, 155 High St, Bridgewater MA. Please free to bring equipment and setups to get on the air with. I hope to see everyone at our next meeting on September 16 at the Bridgewater Public Library.

On a sad note. John, N1UMJ's mother, has passed away. Please keep his family in your thoughts and prayers.

Separate Question:

This is unrelated to Ham Radio. Pam took your advice and checked the fire extinguisher under the sink. The gauge read zero. How do I dispose of it?

Thanks.

John Lajos

Secretaries report Phil N1XTB

At the BBQSO we didn't conduct any formal club business, so no minutes were taken. The usual Treasurer and other reports will be provided at the next monthly meeting at the Bridgewater library.

BBQSO 2024 pictures from Phil N1XTB

In attendance Allen KC1SJS, Adam KC1TNH, John N1UMJ and his sons John and James, Phil N1XTB, John N1BSO and his wife Pam, Joe KB1WCK, Wendy KC1TLT, Patty ricks wife and Rick KB1TEE





Newsletter editor Rick Emord KB1TEE

At our BBQSO I did a little talk about Emergency preparedness on Fire extinguishers. On this subject I discussed checking your extinguisher. There are many types and sizes of Fire extinguishers most home models are the market some are throw away's. If you have a plastic handle on your extinguisher make sure the pressure is spent. Pull the locking pin and discharge any residual pressure. Unscrew the handle once the pressure is spent dump the powder into a dry container like a coffee can place it near your stove. Toss out the empty extinguisher handle in your trash take the canister to a recyle day in your town. Checking your extinguisher! One way to check it take your dry chemical extinguisher once a month check the position of the pressure gauge and then tip it over shake it gently. This loosens up the powder inside that is finer than baby powder. After turning upright wait a short moment, then check the gauge make sure it's in the proper position of full of pressure! How to use remember PASS method!

REMEMBER THE **P.A.S.S. METHOD** WHEN USING A **FIRE EXTINGUISHER**

P

Pull the pin.

A

Aim the stream towards
the base of the fire.

S

Squeeze the lever slowly
and evenly.

S

Sweep side to side.



safetytalkideas.com

I always tell people to stand 6-10 feet from the fire hold the extinguisher at arm's length. If the fire is bigger than your extinguisher looking at your extinguisher get out. PLEASE REMEMBER SMOKE IS THE KILLER PART OF THE FIRE! And you should check your smoke detectors monthly. A lot of detectors now have CO monitoring along with the smoke detection. Find out what manufacturer and style detectors and fire extinguishers you have look up the manufacturers manual. They will give you when to replace dates.

USS Wisconsin BB 64 Norfolk VA. N4WIS

Special Event - Decommissioning of the Battleship Wisconsin BB64

This special shipboard operations event hours Of Operation: Saturday September 20, 2025 - 8:30am - 4PM Sunday September 21, 2025 - 10AM - 4PM (if anyone would like to operate) Parking is available at the Plume Street garage, which is located directly across the street from the ship. Nauticus will validate parking slips for free parking. Operators don't need to be a member to join in on the fun, newcomers are welcome. These special events are lots of fun by all. If you would like to participate, please send me an email to let me know what day you would like to operate (N3WM@yahoo.com).

I look forward to seeing everyone next weekend.



Bill N3Wm
President

USS Massachusetts NE1PL USTNR group

The NE1PL USTNR group will be on the air Saturday September 20th 0830-1400 on the air at 1000-1530 celebrating the launch anniversary of the ship. We are looking for anyone who would like to come down to operate from the ship.



I am looking forward to seeing everyone on Saturday September 20th

Rick KB1TEE
President

MARA OPEN HOUSE

Sunday September 14th 1200 (NOON) to 2pm at the Stanley Ironworks Park, 155 High St, Bridgewater MA. Please free to bring equipment and setups to get on the air with.

We all need to help us gain more recognition in the public eye so please come out and support the club



September is National Preparedness Month

☑

12 WAYS TO PREPARE

<input style="margin-bottom: 5px;" type="checkbox"/> <div style="background-color: #0056b3; color: white; border-radius: 50%; width: 40px; height: 40px; margin: 0 auto; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;"> </div> <p>Sign up for Alerts and Warnings</p>	<input style="margin-bottom: 5px;" type="checkbox"/> <div style="background-color: #0056b3; color: white; border-radius: 50%; width: 40px; height: 40px; margin: 0 auto; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;"> </div> <p>Make a Plan</p>	<input style="margin-bottom: 5px;" type="checkbox"/> <div style="background-color: #0056b3; color: white; border-radius: 50%; width: 40px; height: 40px; margin: 0 auto; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;"> </div> <p>Save for a Rainy Day</p>	<input style="margin-bottom: 5px;" type="checkbox"/> <div style="background-color: #0056b3; color: white; border-radius: 50%; width: 40px; height: 40px; margin: 0 auto; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;"> </div> <p>Practice Emergency Drills</p>	<input style="margin-bottom: 5px;" type="checkbox"/> <div style="background-color: #0056b3; color: white; border-radius: 50%; width: 40px; height: 40px; margin: 0 auto; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;"> </div> <p>Test Family Communication Plan</p>	<input style="margin-bottom: 5px;" type="checkbox"/> <div style="background-color: #0056b3; color: white; border-radius: 50%; width: 40px; height: 40px; margin: 0 auto; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;"> </div> <p>Safeguard Documents</p>
<input style="margin-bottom: 5px;" type="checkbox"/> <div style="background-color: #0056b3; color: white; border-radius: 50%; width: 40px; height: 40px; margin: 0 auto; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;"> </div> <p>Plan with Neighbors</p>	<input style="margin-bottom: 5px;" type="checkbox"/> <div style="background-color: #0056b3; color: white; border-radius: 50%; width: 40px; height: 40px; margin: 0 auto; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;"> </div> <p>Make Your Home Safer</p>	<input style="margin-bottom: 5px;" type="checkbox"/> <div style="background-color: #0056b3; color: white; border-radius: 50%; width: 40px; height: 40px; margin: 0 auto; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;"> </div> <p>Know Evacuation Routes</p>	<input style="margin-bottom: 5px;" type="checkbox"/> <div style="background-color: #0056b3; color: white; border-radius: 50%; width: 40px; height: 40px; margin: 0 auto; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;"> </div> <p>Assemble or Update Supplies</p>	<input style="margin-bottom: 5px;" type="checkbox"/> <div style="background-color: #0056b3; color: white; border-radius: 50%; width: 40px; height: 40px; margin: 0 auto; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;"> </div> <p>Get Involved in Your Community</p>	<input style="margin-bottom: 5px;" type="checkbox"/> <div style="background-color: #0056b3; color: white; border-radius: 50%; width: 40px; height: 40px; margin: 0 auto; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;"> </div> <p>Document and Insure Property</p>

Resilience Through Amateur Radio for National Preparedness Month 2025



September is [National Preparedness Month](#), which is a good time to look at your personal, family, and community resilience levels. For 2025, the National Preparedness Month theme is “Preparedness Starts at Home.”

Amateur radio is a valuable resource for communication and community service before and during times of crisis, and can be a significant factor in your home’s level of preparedness.

“Now is the time to make sure everything is in order,” said ARRL Director of Emergency Management Josh Johnston, KE5MHV. For hams, it means taking the time to check their equipment – from the ground to the antenna, so that it is ready. “Many hams already participate in daily, weekly, and monthly nets that help them hone their communication skills, but if you’re not already active in one, this could be a good opportunity to get into it,” said Johnston.

September marks National Preparedness Month, the annual campaign to remind everyone that preparing for emergencies and disasters can keep them, their families and their communities safe.

The resources and information shared during National Preparedness Month and on [Ready.gov](#) can be used by anyone at any time to get prepared for whatever may come their way., The Ready Campaign aims to ensure all our friends and neighbors have the tools they need to prepare for disasters and build resilience before disaster strikes.

Talking about bad things that could happen like a disaster or emergency isn’t always easy. We may think we’re protecting the people we love by avoiding these conversations, but they are important to start taking steps to get ready and stay safe.

Starting a conversation today can help you and your family to take more actions to prepare. By taking simple steps, you can build your preparedness at your own pace:

Items to Consider Adding to an Emergency Supply Kit: Prescription medications and glasses

Infant formula and diapers

Pet food, water and supplies for your pet

Important family documents such as copies of insurance policies, identification and bank account records in a portable waterproof container

Cash and change power maybe out for days

Emergency reference material such as a first aid book or information from [www.ready.gov](#)

Sleeping bag or warm blanket for each person. Consider additional bedding if you live in a cold-weather climate.

Complete change of clothing including a long sleeved shirt, long and jackets, thermal under garments, pants and sturdy shoes. Consider additional clothing if you live in a cold-weather climate. Weatherproof boots

Fire Extinguisher ABC dry chemical remember to turn upside down once every month, Dry chemical it's like baby powder and needs to be fluffed up to work properly.

Matches in a waterproof container; lighters are good but may not work in time of need.

Personal supplies such as personal hygiene items and hand sanitizer baby wipes are very helpful just swap out after a time may dry out.

Mess kits or A small box to use as a Chuck box is helpful; Paper cups, plates and disposable utensils, paper towels Paper and pencil



PREPACK A BAG

An emergency bag, also known as a [bug-out bag](#) or [get-home bag](#), should be packed with essential supplies to help you survive for at least 72 hours after an emergency or disaster. Key items include water, non-perishable food, a first-aid kit, a flashlight, a radio, extra batteries, medications, a whistle, and copies of important documents

Water: 1 gallon per person per day for drinking and sanitation.

❑ ❑ **Food:** Non-perishable, ready-to-eat items (canned goods, energy bars, etc.).

❑ ❑ **First-aid kit:** Include bandages, antiseptic wipes, pain relievers, and any personal medications.

❑ ❑ **Flashlight and extra batteries:** A hand-crank or battery-powered flashlight is essential.

❑ ❑ **Radio:** Battery-powered or hand-crank radio (NOAA Weather Radio if possible).

❑ ❑ **Medications:** A 7-day supply of prescription medications and any personal medical items.

❑ ❑ **Whistle:** To signal for help.

❑ ❑ **Important documents:** Copies of identification, insurance information, and other essential paperwork.

Manual can opener: For canned food.

- • **Multi-tool or pocket knife:** A versatile tool for various tasks.
- • **Dust mask:** To filter contaminated air.

Fire extinguisher use and safety



To safely and effectively use a fire extinguisher, remember the acronym [PASS](#): Pull, Aim, Squeeze, and Sweep. First, pull the safety pin, then aim the extinguisher nozzle at the base of the fire, squeeze the handle to discharge the extinguishing agent, and finally, sweep the nozzle from side to side at the base of the fire. Always prioritize safety, ensuring you are between the fire and an escape route, and evacuate if the fire grows or the extinguisher is empty.

Operating a Fire Extinguisher

To operate a fire extinguisher, remember the word PASS:

1. Pull the pin.
2. Hold the extinguisher with the nozzle pointing away from you, and release the locking mechanism.
3. Aim low. Point the extinguisher at the base of the fire.
4. Squeeze the lever slowly and evenly.
5. Sweep the nozzle from side-to-side.

Please remember to replace after using or get it refilled at a reputable fill station

Battery safety



From the first sign of a problem, you could have less than one minute to escape a lithium-ion battery fire. But there are things you can do to protect yourself and your loved ones. Watch this important video then prioritize these safety measures to Take C.H.A.R.G.E. of Battery Safety. fire. But there are things you can do to protect yourself and your loved ones. Watch this important video then prioritize these safety measures to Take C.H.A.R.G.E. of Battery Safety.

Battery safety is crucial to prevent fires, explosions, and other hazards, especially with lithium-ion batteries. Proper handling, charging, and storage are key. Always use the correct charger for your device and avoid charging overnight or in living areas. Store batteries away from flammable materials and extreme temperatures, and never throw them in the trash.

Here's a more detailed breakdown of battery safety:

Charging Safely:

- **Use the right charger:** Always use the charger that came with your device or a compatible one from a reputable manufacturer.

❓ ❓ **Avoid overcharging:** Unplug devices once they are fully charged.

❓ ❓ **Charge in a safe location:** Charge devices in a well-ventilated area, away from flammable materials and exit paths.

❓ ❓ **Never charge under your pillow or on soft furnishings:** These can trap heat and create a fire hazard.

❓ ❓ **Avoid charging in extreme temperatures:** Do not charge batteries in temperatures below 32°F or above 105°F.

Storing Batteries Safely:

- **Store in a cool, dry place:** Keep batteries away from direct sunlight, extreme heat, and moisture.

❓ ❓ **Store in a non-metal container:** This helps prevent accidental short circuits.

❓ ❓ **Do not store fully charged batteries for extended periods:** Discharge them to around 50% of capacity for long-term storage.

❓ ❓ **Keep batteries away from flammable materials:** Avoid storing them near anything that could easily catch fire.



Always stay alert for warning signs

- Check battery-powered devices often for damage or abuse such as swelling or punctures.
- Listen for unusual hissing or popping sounds.
- Watch out for excessive heat or a strange odor.
- If you notice any of these warning signs, stop using the lithium-ion battery-powered device immediately.
- White or gray wispy smoke indicates there is immediate danger of fire.



Get out quickly if there's a fire

- Know the warning signs to look and listen for and get out if you see – or hear – them.
- **Follow your home fire escape plan to leave immediately and call 9-1-1.**

The ARRL Solar Update

Solar activity decreased to low levels with only C-class flare activity. No Earth-directed coronal mass ejections (CMEs) were observed in available coronagraph imagery. Solar activity is likely to reach moderate levels through August 30 due to M-class flare activity with a slight chance for an isolated X-class flare event.

Solar wind parameters reflected nominal levels. Total field and Bz were both at benign values. Solar wind speeds were mostly below 400 km/s. Phi was predominantly negative. Slightly enhanced solar wind conditions are possible through August 29 due to occasional influences of a negative polarity coronal hole

Massasoit Amateur Radio Association Executive Board

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Secretary: Philip McNamara KC1JDN

Treasurer: Phil McNamara N1XTB

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440 Repeater 444.550+ (Tone 88.5)

APRS Node Node 144.39 W1MV-1

Packet BBS 145.09 N1XTB-4

Packet Node Brockton 145.09 W1JOE-7 (BROCK)

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WARC Web Page <http://www.wa1npo.org>

QSL via www.eqsl.cc

Skywarn <http://wx1box.org> and

www.powersrvcs.org/w1gmf/skywarn.htm

Mailing Address P.O. Box 428 Bridgewater, MA 02324

Monthly meetings are held the 3rd Tuesday of each month. Tuesday Night Zoom session for the monthly meeting will start at 6:30pm.

Our Meetings-On-The-Air are held all other Tuesday evenings at 8PM on 147.180+ and has a new format.

The South Shore Skywarn Net is held every Saturday evening at 8PM local time on 147.180+ and is open to all hams.

VE Exams are held the 2nd Saturday of every month, in Braintree contact Steve Cohen, W1OD via email w1od@arrl.net. Walk-ins are no longer permitted. We will be hosting VE exams at 8:45 at the Watson building. If you know of anyone planning to take an exam, please have them drop a note to Steve to confirm a reservation