

ECA Statement of Purpose:

The purpose of the Association and its membership is to provide alternative communications systems and qualified personnel to assist governmental organizations in protecting life and property from loss during man-made or natural disasters and any other emergency that may arise. The Association shall promote, support, and be affiliated with communications organizations and activities such as the ARRL Amateur Radio Emergency Service of St. Charles County (ARES), St. Charles County E.M.A. Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Service (RACES), and the National Weather Service Weather Spotter Program (Skywarn). The Association shall also promote and provide educational opportunities in the areas of Emergency Communications Preparedness, Response, and Technology.

ECA has a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with St. Charles County Emergency Management Agency (EMA) to support communications and response activities for EMA. ECA also coordinates and provides response for the National Weather Service for Skywarn activities in the regional area.



Background:

ECA (formerly the St. Charles County EMA Volunteer Service Association) has a distinguished history of service to the citizens of St. Charles County. During the great flood of 1993, the Association logged thousands of hours of emergency response and coordination with governmental agencies such as EMA, the National Guard, Law Enforcement, etc.

When severe thunderstorms and tornadoes have stricken St. Charles County, ECA has responded to provide trained weather spotters and perform damage assessment for NWS and responding agencies. ECA has provided alternate power and communications systems with trained operators when the normal systems have been down.

ECA has been involved with several multi-agency and multi-jurisdictional preparedness exercises.

ECA sponsors the Amateur Radio Emergency Service in St. Charles County and works with several agencies and jurisdictions in St. Charles County.

ECA is a viable asset for the public safety in St. Charles County with trained communications and technical personnel. The communications systems, designed and built by the membership, have considerable capability and coverage with redundant systems in the event of damage to main systems due to a major incident. ECA is incorporated as a Missouri not-for-profit organization and is tax exempt under article 501c3 of the tax code as an exempt educational corporation.

Training Opportunities:

- Public Service and Amateur Radio Net Operation
- First Aid/CPR
- Amateur Radio License Training
- Community Emergency Response Training
- Skywarn Spotter Training
- Paging and Warning Systems
- HAZMAT Recognition/Reporting
- Phone Bank Management
- FEMA Emergency Management Training
- Emergency Preparedness
- Damage Assessment
- Managing Walk-in Volunteers
- National Incident Management System



Exercises:

ECA participates in several exercises each year including the Statewide Skywarn Tornado Drill, the ARRL Simulated Emergency Test (SET) and special summer exercises which involve field testing and exercising. Other exercises are called by served agencies as deemed appropriate by their management.

**Are you interested
in learning and
serving your
community?**

If you are interested in learning and serving your community, ECA may be for you! Come and see what we are all about! See the back side of this flyer for meeting times and places.

All meetings are held at the St. Charles County EOC at 301 North Second Street, St. Charles, MO.

Radio Net Schedule

- EMA Net: Mondays at 1900 (7:00 pm) on the EMA repeater
- ARES Net: Mondays at 2030 (8:30 pm) on the ARES repeater (W0ECA) on 145.490(-) MHz 141.3 PL
- Skywarn and emergency nets are called as required. EMA and ARES repeaters should be monitored for activations.

Membership Dues

- Full Member: \$25.00 per year
- Supporting Member: \$50.00 per year
- Membership dues help pay for communications system maintenance, newsletter, awards banquet, special exercise costs, training costs and insurance.

Meetings

Monthly ECA/ARES Meeting - Second Thur.

- ECA Meeting 1900 (7:00 pm)
- Other meetings for training and preparedness drills will be announced during weekly nets.

ECA/ARES Operating Frequencies

- ARES Repeater - 145.490(-) 141.3 PL W0ECA
- SMILINK Repeater - 444.475(+) 77.0 PL W0ECA
- EMA Repeater - 155.835/153.920 141.3 PL KNFR-268
- ARES Ground - 146.595 Simplex
- EMA Ground - 156.000 Simplex

Emergency Communications Association (ECA)



Are you interested in serving your community? Do you have ability in the areas of journalism, communications, technology, photography, boat operations, search and rescue, storm spotting or several other areas which could be put to use for your community? ECA of St. Charles County may be the place for you!

ECA is an IRS 501c3 not-for-profit volunteer organization with a focus on communications, technology and education for public safety.