



Field Day 2026

Your Guide to Fun and Survival



W2HO



What is Field Day?

- Widely sponsored Annual amateur radio exercise encouraging emergency communications preparedness among amateur radio operators.
- It's an American Radio Relay League (ARRL) Contest to work as many stations as possible on designated amateur bands and to learn to operate in abnormal situations in less than optimal conditions.
- It's a Club Activity, a Social gathering for camaraderie, friendship, sharing of ideas, and technical experimentation.



Objective

- Contact as many other stations as possible on any and all amateur bands.
 - Excluding the 60, 30, 17, and 12 meter bands
- Develop skills to meet the challenges of emergency preparedness and acquainting the general



When

- Always the fourth full weekend in June.
 - June 27-28, 2026
- Starts 1800 UTC / 1400 EDT Saturday.
- Ends 1800 UTC / 1400 EDT Sunday.
- Get to know time notation and conversion



Where



Thomas Bull Park, Montgomery, New York

Latitude : 41.484 N
Longitude : --74.274 W
Grid locator : FN21UL



What

Friday, June 26

- 1200 EDT: Meet at Thomas Bull Park for setup
- Antennas and feedlines, Additional items if overnight security

Saturday, June 27

- 0900 EDT: Meet at Thomas Bull Park for setup, Shelter, Power, Club Stations
- 1400 EDT: Field Day Contest Starts



What (2)

Sunday, June 28

- 1230 EDT: Teardown of non-essentials.
- 1400 EDT: Field Day Contest ends, Begin teardown



Participation

- All amateurs in US and Canada and possessions.
- DX stations may be contacted for credit



Scoring

- 1 point for each voice contact.
- 2 points for each CW or Digital contact.
- Add total points for all QSOs.
- Power Level (<100W) gives us a 2x to total QSO Points



Bonus Points

- **100% Emergency Power**
 - 100 points per transmitter classification if all contacts are made only using an emergency power source
 - GOTA station and free VHF Station for Class A and F entries do not qualify
- **Satellite QSO**
 - just 1 contact permitted – 100 points.
- **Media Publicity**
 - 100 bonus points may be earned for obtaining publicity from local media.



Bonus Points (2)

- **Originating Message to Section Manager**
 - 100 points
- **Handling messages**
 - 10 points each, max 100 points
- **Copying special FD bulletin on W1AW**
 - 100 points



Entry Categories

- **Class A**
 - Club / non-club portable: Club or a non-club group of three or more persons set up specifically for Field Day. Such stations must be located in places that are not regular station locations and must not use facilities installed for permanent station use, or use any structure installed permanently for Field Day
- **Class B**
 - One or two people operating portable



Entry Categories (2)

- **Class C**
 - Mobile
- **Class D**
 - Home Station using Commercial Power
- **Class E**
 - Home Station using Emergency Power

**We typically are Five Alpha (5A)
5 reflecting maximum number of simultaneous
transmitters**



ARRL Sections

- 71 Sections.
- Basically, each US state and Canadian province.
- Each state may be divided into several sections.
 - New York is 4 sections (ENY, NLI, NNY, WNY)
 - New Jersey is 2 sections (NNJ, SNJ)



ARRL Section Examples

Maine	ME		Northern New Jersey	NNJ
New Hampshire	NH		Southern New Jersey	SNJ
Eastern Massachusetts	EMA		Delaware	DE
West Massachusetts	WMA		Eastern Pennsylvania	EPA
Vermont	VT		Maryland & DC	MDC
Rhode Island	RI		Western Pennsylvania	WPA
Connecticut	CT		Virginia	VA
Eastern New York	ENY		Georgia	GA
Western New York	WNY		Ohio	OH
NYC and Long Island	NLI		West Central Florida	WCF

We are ENY “Eastern New York”



The Contact Exchange

- In order to make a valid contact, the information to be exchanged consists of:
 - Number of simultaneous transmitters you are running
 - Class of operation.
 - ARRL Section (DX Contacts use DX)

“I’m operating from an easy chair in my shack from commercial power” then you are 1D ENY

“I’m operating from an easy chair in my shack with radios running on emergency power” then you are 1E ENY

“I’m cruising the hood or parked” then you are 1C ENY



Exchange Accuracy

You must copy the information correctly from
the other station

AND...

The other station must copy your information
correctly

OR ELSE...



ITU Phonetics

Alpha	Bravo	Charlie	Delta
Echo	Foxtrot	Golf	Hotel
India	Juliet	Kilo	Lima
Mike	November	Oscar	Papa
Quebec	Romeo	Sierra	Tango
Uniform	Victor	Whiskey	X-Ray
Yankee	Zulu		



Strategy

- “Hunt & Pounce”
 - Roam the bands, looking for stations who are calling CQ and answering them.
 - You can avoid stations with big pileups, there is always later.
- “Sitting” on a Frequency calling CQ and wait for them to come to you.
 - You never know who will answer.
 - You usually can work a lot more stations (more points, higher QSO rate.)
 - May have to handle a pileup



Exchange “Sitting”

**CQ Field Day, CQ Field Day, CQ Field Day from,
Whiskey Two Hotel Oscar, Whiskey Two Hotel Oscar,
W2HO**

W2HO this is NE2Z

or just

NE2Z



Exchange “Sitting” (2)

**NE2Z this is W2HO, please copy Five Alpha Eastern
New York, Five Alpha Eastern New York, QSL?**

QSL, please copy One Delta Eastern New York, One
Delta Eastern New York

QSL, 73, QRZ W2HO



Exchange “Hunt and Pounce”

CQ Field Day, CQ Field Day, CQ Field Day from,
November Echo Two Zulu, November Echo Two Zulu,
NE2Z

NE2Z this is W2HO

or just

W2HO



Exchange “Hunt and Pounce” (2)

W2HO this is NE2Z, please copy One Delta Eastern New York, One Delta Eastern New York, QSL?

QSL, please copy Five Alpha, Eastern New York, Five Alpha, Eastern New York

73, QRZ NE2Z?



Questions?





Orange County
Amateur Radio Club, Inc.