

Maine Emergency Simplex Frequencies and Primary Repeater Frequencies

The Maine ARES Simplex Frequencies were first implemented after the Ice Storm of 1998 in response to many hams who stated they wanted to help, but did not know where various ARES groups in the state were operating during the Ice Storm. Because of many repeaters being down, many ARES groups were forced to operate simplex. Many were operating on the output frequency of their local repeater, some were operating on 146.520 and others were operating on other simplex frequencies. There was no standard set of simplex frequencies in Maine for ARES operations. Due to the lack of coordinated frequencies, many ARES groups found that they were interfering with ARES groups in nearby counties on the same frequency. Many ARES groups that were operating on 146.520 found that they had lost much of their frequency diversity (a very strong point for amateur radio emergency communications).

Over the years, the list has evolved from a single set of simplex frequencies (one for each county) to a set of three simplex frequencies available to each county of the state for their use that would have the minimum interference to nearby counties. Counties now have the advantage of being able to publish the frequencies that they would operate on during disaster operations and inform those hams that are not ARES members where ARES operations would take place.

The current simplex assignment list has two frequencies that are about 1 MHz apart from each other (Primary and Secondary) and a third (Tertiary) frequency that is fairly near either the Primary or Secondary allocations. It is recommended the Tertiary frequency be used for tactical operations some distance from operators using the Primary or Secondary net frequencies and at a lower power level to avoid interference with either the Primary or Secondary frequencies.

Maine Emergency Simplex Frequency Assignments

Primary Repeater Frequencies

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| County | Primary Simplex | Secondary Simplex | Tertiary Simplex | Primary Repeater |
|------------------------|-----------------|-------------------|------------------|------------------|
| Androscoggin | 146.460 | 147.540 | 146.430 | 146.610 |
| Aroostock | 146.475 | 147.510 | 146.505 | 146.730 |
| Cumberland | 146.415 | 147.525 | 146.535 | 147.090 |
| Franklin | 146.535 | 147.570 | 146.580 | |
| Hancock | 146.565 | 147.495 | 146.535 | 146.910 |
| Kennebec | 147.480 | 146.475 | 147.450 | 145.390 |
| Knox | 147.540 | 146.445 | 147.570 | |
| Lincoln | 147.510 | 146.505 | 147.450 | |
| Oxford | 146.550 | 147.435 | 146.505 | 146.880 |
| Penobscot | 146.580 | 147.555 | 146.550 | 146.940 |
| Piscataquis | 146.400 | 147.450 | 146.565 | |
| Sagadahoc | 146.490 | 147.555 | 146.565 | 147.210 |
| Somerset | 147.420 | 146.430 | 147.525 | |
| Waldo | 146.430 | 147.465 | 146.460 | |
| Washington | 147.525 | 146.460 | 147.570 | 147.330 |
| York | 147.570 | 146.445 | 147.540 | 145.410 |
| Statewide Coordination | 146.520 | | | KQ1L System |

Primary Repeater = Output Frequency of Primary Repeater

Additional Frequencies:

3940 kHz Statewide (night)
7262 kHz Statewide (day)

52.525 MHz
223.500 MHz
446.000 MHz

Statewide 6 M Coordination
Statewide 1 ¼ M. Coordination
Statewide 70 CM Coordination