

NETS

Red Cross Communications Equipment and Facilities Overview

1 Purpose

Three cabinets containing amateur radio communications transceivers and peripherals are maintained at the Rochester Chapter of the American Red Cross at 50 Prince Street. ARES members who may be assigned to the Red Cross communications station must familiarize themselves with the contents, access process, and operation of the HF, VHF, and packet equipment.

2 Scope

An overview of the available communications equipment is given. Although detailed operating instructions are not given in this document, the locations and use of various instructional tools such as manuals and a CD are covered. The check-out process for any member who will be using the gear is also specified.

3 Red Cross Communications Equipment and Facilities Overview

3.1 Location and Contact Information

The Greater Rochester Chapter of the American Red Cross is located at 50 John Street, Rochester, NY. A map of the location is given in Figure 3-1.

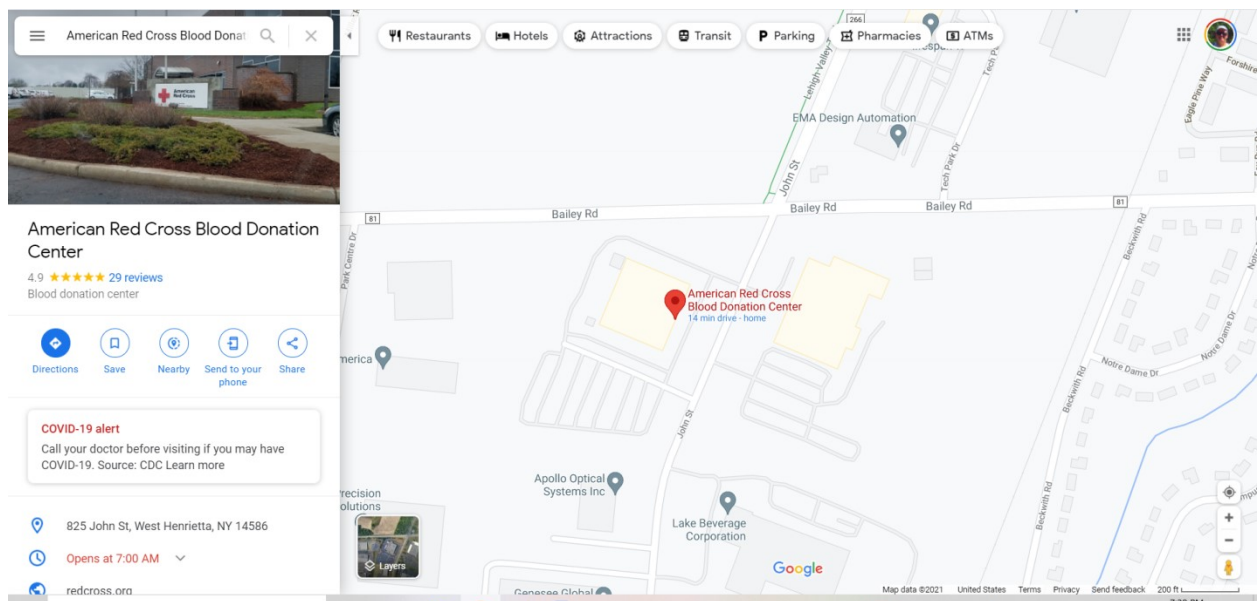


Figure 3-1: Location of Greater Rochester Chapter of the American Red Cross at 825 John St. in Rochester, NY.

Red Cross Main Desk (including Security): (585) 241-4400 (Needs updating)

3.2 Liasons

Monroe County ARES Emergency Coordinator
Monroe County ARES / Rochester Chapter of the American Red Cross Liaison
Packet Station Manager
Monroe County ARES / Rochester Chapter of the American Red Cross Backup Liaison

3.3 Operations at the Greater Rochester Red Cross Chapter

3.3.1 Parking and Arrival

Parking spaces are located on the north side of the Red Cross building. Entry is through the door at the west end of the lot, (the door with the horse standing just outside).

3.3.2 Station Setup

After signing in at the main desk and showing your ARES badge to the Red Cross employee stationed at the main desk, ask that person to direct you to the Director of the Rochester Chapter of the American Red Cross or the Community Partnerships Coordinator. You will need to show your badge again in order to be given the keys by the Director or the Coordinator.

The ARES amateur radio stations are housed in portable cabinets in the storage room. They should be moved from the storage room to the Operations Center. The attachment of each radio to the coax cables is as prescribed by Table 3-1.

Table 3-1: Radio to Cable Hookup Guide

Radio	Band(s)	Cable Number
ICOM IC-V8000	2 meters	3
Kenwood TM-431A	440 MHz	2
Yaesu FT-980	HF	To Be Installed

3.3.3 Privacy of communications

As in all other communications for a served agency, no MC ARES member shall relay protected health or personal information in any way that links a specific person with that information. This includes but is not limited to the individual's past, present or future physical or mental health or condition, the provision of health care to the individual, the individual's name, address, phone number, birth date, or Social Security Number.

3.3.4 Red Cross Building Layout

Operations Center / Room
Radio storage room
Break room
Restrooms
Bunk room
Exits

3.4 Communication Equipment

Table 3-2 lists the communication equipment components and their key specifications.

Table 3-2: Communication Equipment

Description	Make and Model	Serial Number	Current Draw	Dimensions (in)	Weight
VHF Radio	ICOM IC-V8000		15A @ 50W	6.25W×2.5H×6.5D	2.5 lbs
UHF Radio	Kenwood TM-431A				
HF Radio	Yaesu FT-980		530 VA (5A AC, 44A DC)	14.75W×7.0H×16.5D	39 lbs
HF Tuner	MFJ-949E		Negligible	10.1W×3.5H×9D	< 2lbs
Power Supply	Astron RS-35A			11.25W×5.75H×10.75D	27 lbs

Packet

Same configuration as Monroe County EOC

- UIView
- WinPack

3.4.1 Antennas

Table 3-3 lists the antennas and their key specifications.

Table 3-3: Antennas

Location on Roof	Make and Model	Band	SWR	Feedline Length	Label
Northeast Corner	Diamond F-23A	2m	1.7:1 @ 146.0 MHz	288 ft	Cable #1
North Center	Unknown				
Northwest Corner	Comet GP-3	2m/440	1.6:1 @ 146.0 MHz	295 ft	Cable #2
West Center	Shakespeare 176-S CB				
Southwest Corner	Diamond F-23A	2m	1.4:1 @ 146.0 MHz	280 ft	Cable #3
South Center	Cushcraft Ringo Ranger ARX450B	440	Not Measured	284 ft	Cable #4

Note: All cable is Belden 9913 Plenum with a calculated loss at 146.5 MHz equal to 1.9 dB

Label all coax feeds

Develop semi annual process and schedule for testing SWR of all antennas

Radio Equipment Operations

Operations manuals co-located with all equipment

Instructional DVD / CD

Process to check out new operators

3.5 References

4 Safety

5 Abbreviations and Terms

6 Related Documents and Information

Revision History

REV	DATE	DESCRIPTION	AUTHOR - CALL
0	9 Sept 2007	Initial publication.	Emergency Plan Team
1	16 July 2021	Change location from 50 Prince Street to 825 John Street	Michael J. Bowen – kc2btw