Army Air Force MARS Drill

November 2nd thru November 6th 2017

The purpose of the drill is to build relationships between MARS and amateur operators and to gather specific information on local conditions from towns across the section. This is a nationwide drill and there could possibly be local MARS requests for these reports on local nets here in Connecticut. The report form is outlined on this page and they stress that all reports should reflect current actual conditions. Please DO NOT get creative and report inaccurate conditions. Any request for reports should come on local nets and will then be passed on to a MARS gateway station. If you do not hear a request for a report do not worry. It might be a good idea to have a report ready and all that you to do is insert the correct date time info. The format is easy but we want to get them correct. These reports can be delivered by voice, digital, or CW. Be ready in case you hear a request for a local report during the MARS drill dates.

An example for me in New Milford would be the following:

New Milford/09005/241545/Y/Y/Y/Y/Y/Y/G/EOC New Milford, CT /W8ZY/

Thanks

Mike, W8ZY

CT ARES SEC

Connecticut MARS County Status Report Format

The county status report is a new type of message designed to simply and efficiently report conditions within a county to the appropriate authorities.

The report covers the status of a number of important public services in the referenced county. It uses a standardized system to report status ensuring consistency in reporting. Data used in the report can come from personal observation or from personal observations collected by other MARS members, amateur radio operators in ARES groups, or knowledgeable individuals. Specifically, the County Status covers the operational status of Public Power, Water, Sanitation, Medical Care, Transportation and Communications Systems.

The CNTY information set contains the city followed by 10 standardized fields:

Rocky Hill/09003/041625/Y/Y/Y/Y/Y/Y/G/EMA DIRECTOR Rocky Hill, CT /W1AW/

1. **Town Name**

2. **County FIPS Code**

Use the five-digit FIPS code and add a leading zero for compatibility with the NWS SAME code. In Connecticut the county codes are:

Fairfield County	09001
Hartford County	09003
Litchfield County	09005
Middlesex County	09007
New Haven County	09009
New London County	09011
Tolland County	09013
Windham County	09015

3. **Time of Observation**

Date time of when the information was obtained and not necessarily when the message was transmitted or relayed. Use DDHHMM for the format, (Day, Hour, & Minute).

November 4th at 4:25 PM would be   041625 *ALWAYS LOCAL TIME*

4. **Power Status**

Y – Yes. Commercial power is fully functional in the county except for routine maintenance.

R – Rolling Blackout. Planned outages with little warning intended to ease stress on the power grid.

P – Partial Blackout. Unplanned interruption of commercial power only in parts of the county.

B – Brownout. Reduction in voltage used as an emergency measure to prevent system failure.

N – No. A Blackout has occurred. Complete unplanned commercial power interruption in the county.

5. **Water Status**

Y – Yes. Fully functional water service in the county except for routine maintenance. (Green).

P – Partial. Unplanned interruption of water service only in parts of the county.

C – Contaminated. Water service is available but contaminated and should not be used.

N – No. Complete unplanned water service interruption.

6. **Sanitation Status**

Y – Yes. Fully functioning sanitation service in the county except for routine maintenance.

P – Partial. Unplanned interruption of sanitation service only in part of the county.

N – No. Complete unplanned sanitation service interruption.

7. **Medical Infrastructure Status**

Y – Yes. Fully functioning and staffed hospitals and clinics with spare capacity available.

P – Partial. Unplanned decrease of capacity in the county due to loss of facilities.

R – Partial due to personnel. Unplanned decrease in capacity due to loss of personnel.

F – Full. Facilities are at maximum capacity and can't handle new patients.

N – No. Not available. Medical facilities are unusable due to loss of personnel or infrastructure.

8. **Communication System Status**

Y – Yes. Fully functioning commercial and civil government local communications.

P – Partial. Commercial communications out but local government communications are operational.

N – No. Complete loss of local communications and government communications.

9. **Transportation Status**

Y – Yes. Fully functioning mass transit, roads, and rail systems except for routine maintenance.

P – Partial. Unplanned interruption in service or loss of road/rail in parts of the county.

N – No. Complete loss of mass transit systems. Roads remain available except for those damaged.

10. **Information Source**

C – Commercial Broadcast. This includes non-validated sources such as local radio and TV news.

E – EAS. Government Broadcast. Information received from EAS/IPAWS over any media.

G – Civil government or public officials other than EAS/IPAWS such as from an EOC.

A – Amateur. Information originated by amateur radio operators and not validated or coordinated by public officials.

R – Relay. Information originated by civil government that is subsequently relayed through amateur radio.

11. **Other Remarks**

A typical use of the "Additional Information" (Remarks Field), would be to spell out the county name, place the reporting station call-sign, or list the organizations name or source of information.

Your callsign goes here.