

Recommended Supplies and Equipment for Public Service Events by Bruce Pigott KC1US

These specialized versions of ready to go kits, are based on participating in planned events of limited duration in a defined area. You do not need a full ARES deployment kit. The lists reflect an increasing level of event duration or complexity and build on the previous one. Different seasons, locations or activities will require making additions to these lists. Some of the equipment is to help the event organizers with their set up. Not included are items you normally carry daily. These supplies and equipment are meant to support you, while you are doing event communications support.

Minimum level: for short events of less than four hours duration.

Radio Equipment needed:

2 meter radio (2.5W min. output) programmed with event channels and **operating manual**
eight hours* of battery capacity
low loss antenna (15 inches min.)
external microphone
headphones or earphone
name and call sign badge
club identification

Personal items:

small carrying pack
brightly colored hat and vest
sunscreen / sun protection
wind shell / rain gear
warm gloves and hat
knife/multitool
paper, pens, notebook
equipment checklist

Extra items:

additional apparel
wide felt marker
?

Event procedures with frequency and channel designations

Next level: for extended events.

5W dual band radio with **operating manual**
or dual band mobile rig with cross band capability
16 hours* of battery capacity at 5 Watts
AA cell holder plus alkaline cells
event map plus area maps
trash bags, large and small
FRS radio

transparent tape and electrical tape
rope or strong twine
pliers / 5 inch diagonal cutters / adjustable wrench
screwdrivers – flat blade and Phillips
water/food – snacks/juice/fruit/Clif Bars/muffins
cooler KC1US
folding chair

Next level: for a mobile assignment.

extended duty hand held or mobile radio
10Ah* AGM battery for mobile radio
power outlet cord to radio power plug and fuses
multiple power outlet adapter
large alligator clips to radio power plug cable
power cords with Powerpole® connectors
event map plus area maps
Personal Navigation Device with points of interest and "Where Am I" features
* Radio duty cycle: Squelched 50%, Receive 40%, Transmit 10%

1/2 wavelength mobile antenna, magnetic or mirror mount
gaffer's tape and magnetic plate for non ferrous vehicle
hand held radio to mobile antenna cable adapter
6/12/18 ft extension coax cables and PL-258/U barrels
UHF f to BNC m adapter (UG255) or SMA m to UHF f
UHF m to BNC f adapter (UG273) or SMA m to BNC f
plastic tie wraps

These items are just a starting point. Build your own list with items you are comfortable with and know how to use. Look at checklists used by hikers for ideas about additional items that may be useful when outdoors. Have back up equipment available to allow operating the full event duration.