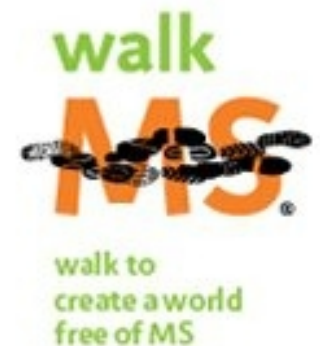


Volunteering Opportunities



MCSAR

Midland County Search & Rescue



Why Volunteer?

- **Amateur radio offers more than just a hobby!**
- **You're skilled and radio licensed, making you a great resource!**
- **Your time and talents make you needed by so many organizations.**
- **A great way to give back to the community and hobby.**
- **Meet others with a common interest.**
- **Helping others is highly satisfying.**
- **Increase your skills and knowledge, often learn new skills as well.**

What Kind of Volunteer Opportunities?

Public Service Events:

- **Net Controls / check-ins each week (or for events)**
- **Community events like MS-Walk / Dow Walk-Run / Dirty Dog Run**
- **Teaching Assistants (Electronics Club)**
- **Volunteer Examiners (for giving radio exams)**
- **"Elmers" (coaching / teaching / guiding others)**
- **MARC officers and Staff (President / VP / Treasurer / Secretary / Public Relations-Cheerleader / Trustee / Web Site / Quartermaster)**
- **Annual Club hamfest and club sales event**
- **Domain experts giving a club presentation about the hobby areas**
- **Participants for ARRL's Field Day (contests, public open-house, etc.)**
- **National Traffic System (message passing)**

What Kind of Volunteer Opportunities?

Public Safety Events:

- **EOC Volunteers**
- **Search and Rescue Volunteers**
- **Net Controls for events / emergencies / Skywarn**
- **Skywarn Weather Spotters**
- **Emergency Coordinator / Radio Officer / AUXCOMM (ARES / RACES) volunteers**

What Skills / Training Should a Volunteer Have?

Basic Skills You Should Master:

- Operate an amateur handheld radio
- Good Listening Skills
- Good Speaking Skills
- Ability to receive / transmit short messages accurately
- Professional, friendly, team-oriented attitude

Enhanced Volunteer Skills For Some Assignments:

- Net control operator.
- Skywarn Weather Spotter trained.
- Physically able to walk longer distances to events / manned stations.
- I/T skills like “office” applications, video conferencing, google apps, perform & record observations, scribing, data entry, record keeping.
- Understand / setup radio components / settings as needed

Professional Volunteer Skills For Complex Assignments / Leadership:

- Trained in Incident Command System (ICS) modules
- MI-CIMS trained and have an account
- AUXC trained and badged

School Club, Volunteer Examiners, and More!



- Contact: Dennis Klipa, N8ERF
- School Clubs
- Volunteer Examiners (VEs)
Website: <https://www.arrl.org/volunteer-examiners>
- Other Activities
- The Secret to Success!



Midland County Search and Rescue



MCSAR

Midland County Search & Rescue

- Website: <https://midlandsar.org/> Contact: Kevin Barnum, KB8QWQ
- There is a spot for everyone, regardless of training
- Many of the team members are amateur radio operators
- Some other spots will take just a bit of awareness training
- If you have an AUXCOMM card, the route to full membership is short

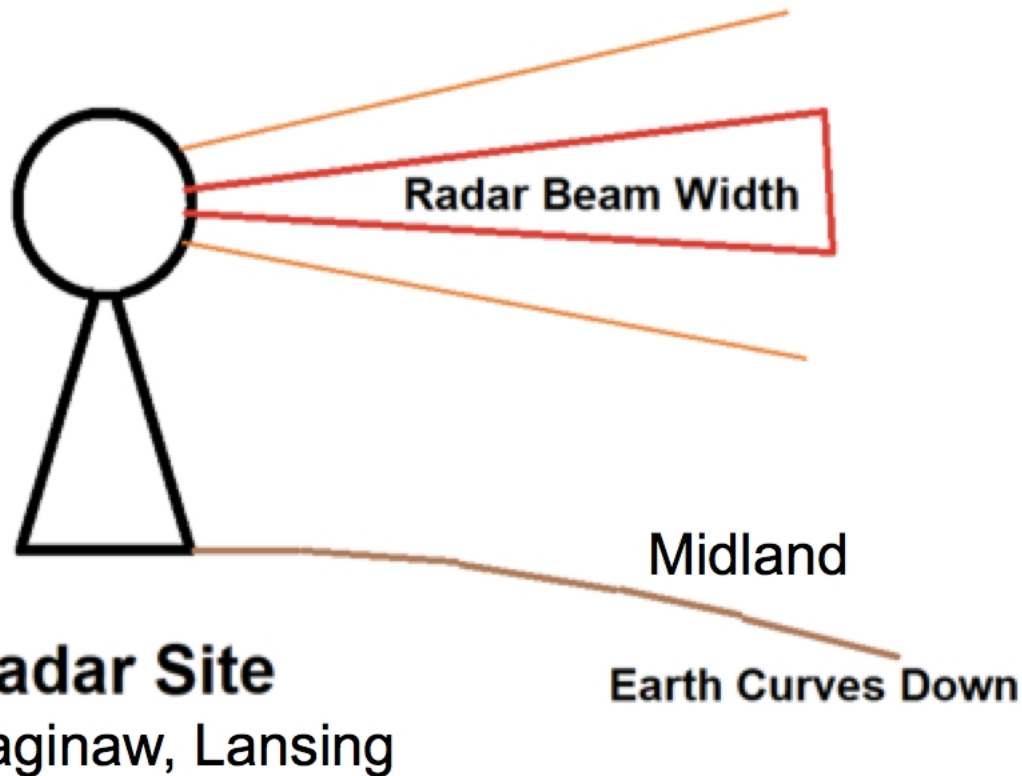


Skywarn Weather Spotting

- Website: <https://www.weather.gov/SKYWARN> Contact: Chris Rose, KB8UIH
- Assist during weather emergencies.
- Often observe / report weather from wherever you're at, giving a status of Midland county. Participate in a severe weather net. If weather thresholds are met, Net Control will report directly to NWS. That in turn is distributed to the public and 911.
- Next in-person training session, conducted by National Weather Service personnel will be March 2nd, 7:30pm (location TBD). Or take the course online at above link.
- Sometimes, severe weather occurs in adjoining counties, which will often feed their observations to Midland County if we're in the path. And vice-versa.
- Take the class and learn how to spot severe weather phenomena!
- Followup Midland-specific training and a practice session to orient Skywarn participants to be scheduled soon.



Skywarn Weather Spotting

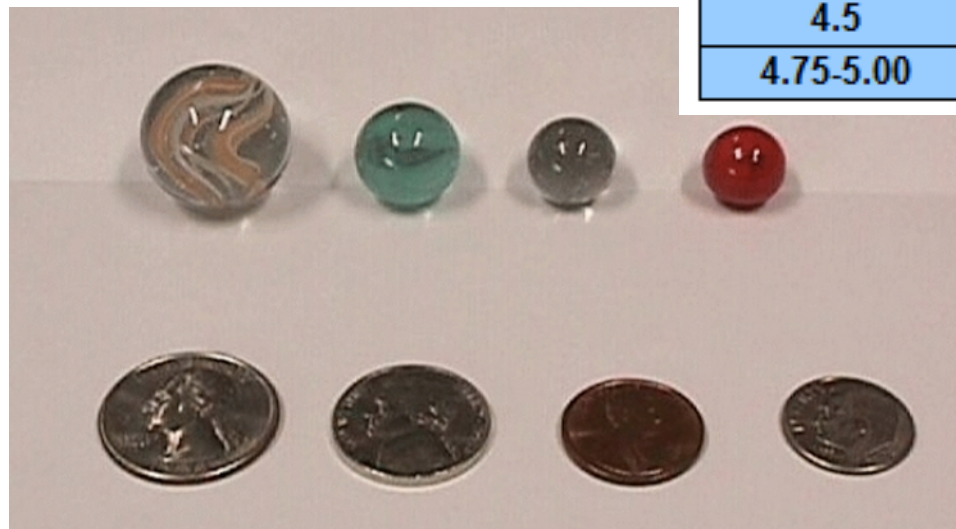


Estimating Hail Size with Visual Clues

Hail Diameter Size (inches)	Description (size)
1/4 to 3/8	pea
1/2	small marble
3/4	penny
7/8	nickel
1	quarter (severe thunderstorm warning threshold)
1.25	half dollar
1.5	ping pong ball / walnut
1.75	golf ball
2	lime
2.5	tennis ball
2.75	baseball
3	large apple
4	softball
4.5	grapefruit
4.75-5.00	computer CD/DVD

No Marbles!

My large apple is bigger than your large apple...



A picture with a ruler for reference is the best!

MS-Walk, Dow RunWalk, Dirty Dog Trail Run, et.al.

- Contacts: Lee Hodges KC8ITI, Chris Rose KB8UIH, Paul Tolly N8GEM
- Need radio operators along the course to observe and assist participants
- Usually a Saturday morning engagement



National Traffic System

- Website: <https://www.arrl.org/nts> Contact: John Tallman, KB8PGW
- Midland County has a need for more traffic handlers! Routine and emergency messages (called “traffic”) are relayed across the globe.
- Potential participants are invited to station KB8PGW during net times to see how this is performed.
- You’re invited to check-into the Michigan Amateur Communications System net and introduce yourself.
- More practice message-passing sessions will be arranged upon interest. Past sessions were a lot of fun.



Midland Amateur Radio Club (MARC)

- Website: w8kea.org Contacts: Lee Hodges KC8ITI, Will Halphen K8VFO
- MARC Officers and Staff Positions:
 - President, Vice President, Treasurer, Secretary, Public Relations, Web site curator, Quartermaster, Trustee, Radio Officer assigned to Midland County
- Lead the effort with public service events as mentioned before. Other activities include the annual club hamfest, give a presentation to the club about topics of interest, be an “elmer” to others interested in this hobby, and much more! Partner and participate in nearby amateur radio clubs such as Saginaw and Bay City.



Typical Midland AUXCOMM / EOC Volunteer Assignments and Tasks

- Website: <https://www.co.midland.mi.us/EmergencyManagement.aspx>
- Contact Jack Robinson K8GTG, Max Schneider KE8DON
- Fill available roles for the Emergency Operations Center team during an emergency event (EOC is activated).
- Train in ICS online courses, apply for AUXC with Midland Emergency Operations.
- Radio communications. Passing messages. Net Control. Staffing phone lines. Filling out documentation / forms. Entering data into MI-CIMS. Scribing meetings. Working with suppliers / vendors. Ad-hoc volunteer assignments, such as damage assessments, reunification staffing, help-center staffing, “runners”, observers, severe weather spotting / reporting, etc. The tasks will be as varied as the events are.



2023 Calendar (so far, subject to change)

- **March 2nd, 7:30pm** - **Skywarn Weather Spotter Training by NWS**
- **April 29th, 7:30am** - **Walk MS, Midland**
- **May 13th, 7:30am** - **Walk MS, Frankenmuth**
- **June 3rd, 7:30am** - **Dow RunWalk**
- **June 17th, 8:00am** - **MARC Swap Meet**
- **June 24-25** - **ARRL Field Day**
- **July (mid July, tbd)** - **Tall Ships, Bay City**
- **August 26th, 7:30am** - **Dirty Dog Trail Run, City Forest**
- **October 14th, 7:30am**
Forest - **Fast & Furriest Walk-Run (GLBAS) City**
- **TBD** - **Severe**
weather, date/time TBD