

MADISON COUNTY, ILLINOIS SKYWARN NET OPERATING PROCEDURES

Purpose/Summary

The following information provides the guidelines for radio net procedures for the Madison County, IL. SKYWARN Net. These procedures should be used only during SKYWARN nets. Individuals are encouraged to "check-in" with their local emergency net instead of the NWS WX0STL SKYWARN net. It is critical that people in your county get the information as quickly as possible.

Issue date: July 1, 2008

Supersedes

Original undated procedures.

Applies to

Net Control Station, and all participating stations during the operation of a SKYWARN Net.

Maintained by

Madison County ARES

Authority References

Approved by

Dave Miller, K0RJL
Madison County ARES Emergency Coordinator

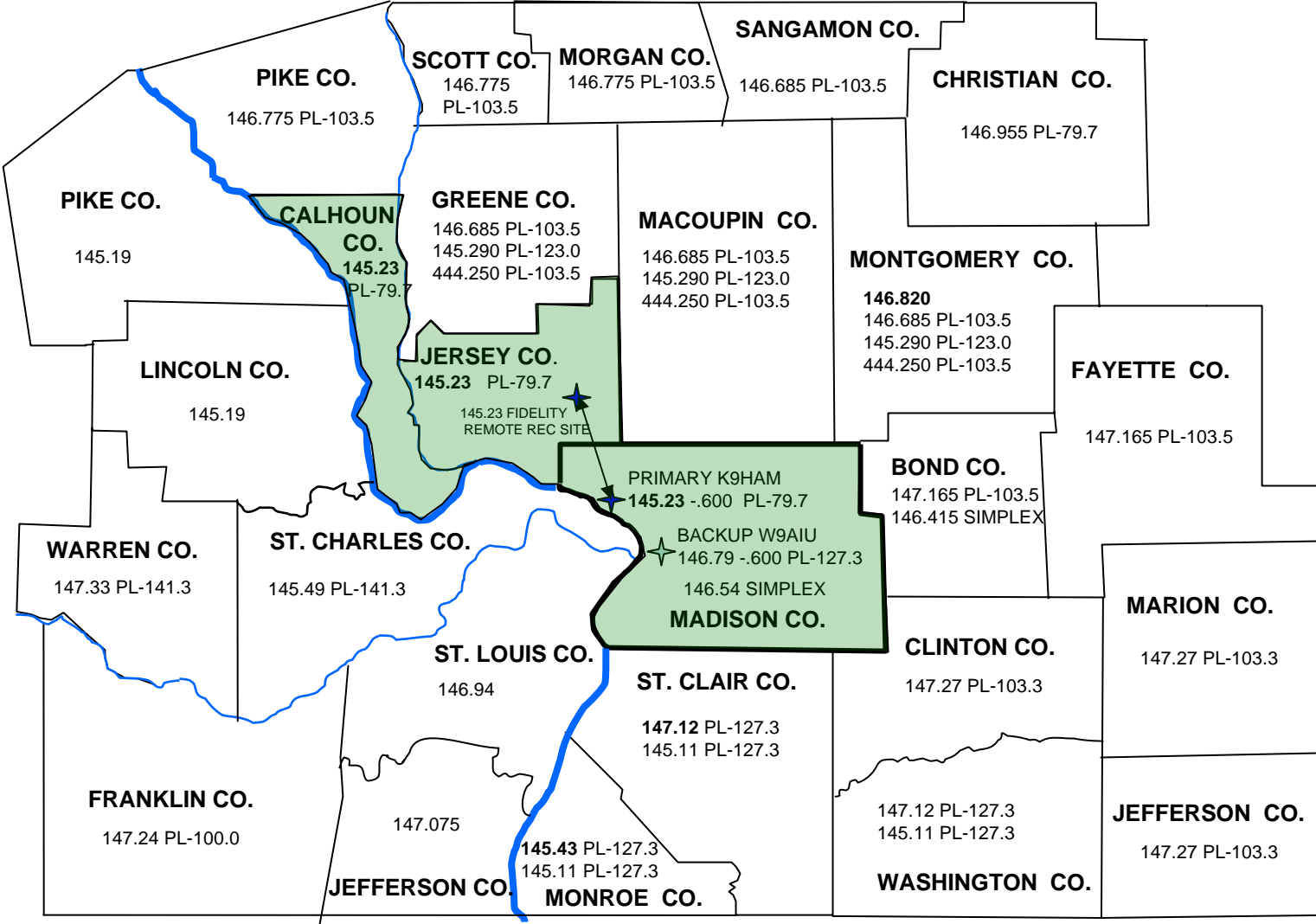
Requirements

1. The Madison County, Illinois SKYWARN Net will be a directed net, initiated and operated by one of the following:
 - A. SKYWARN Coordinator
 - B. Assistant SKYWARN Coordinator(s)
 - C. ARES Emergency Coordinator
 - D. ARES Assistant Emergency Coordinator(s)or any amateur radio operator appointed by one of the above. This person will assume the entire responsibility for the current session of SKYWARN Net activity by acting as Net Control Station (NCS). Traffic is limited by the discretion and direction of the NCS to emergency traffic and only those priority reports deemed important or appropriate to keep an orderly net, a manageable workload for NCS, and to keep the NWS sufficiently informed.

2. The following frequencies shall be used for SKYWARN Net operations,
 - PRIMARY Freq: K9HAM Repeater, **145.230 - .600 with a PL tone of 79.7**
 - BACKUP Freq: W9AIU Repeater, **146.790 - .600 with a PL tone of 127.3**
 - SIMPLEX Freq: **146.540**

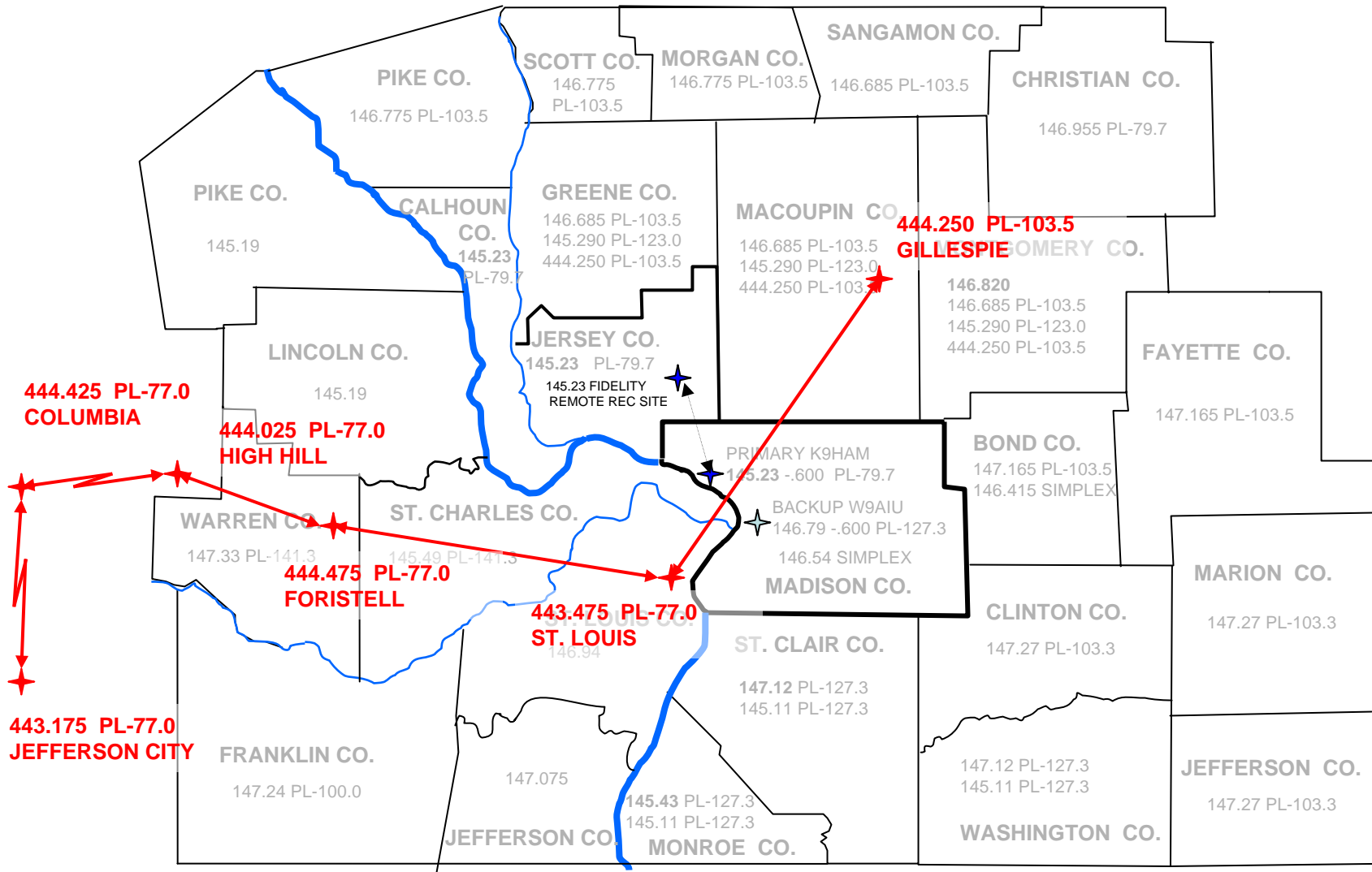
3. Madison County SKYWARN Net will activate AFTER the St. Louis National Weather Service Severe Weather Net (WX0STL) is activated on the Mid-Missouri "Show Me" Intertie Linked System (See Appendix B). The only exception to the above is when life-threatening weather is affecting all or a portion of the Madison County SKYWARN Net counties of responsibility, and the St. Louis National Weather Service (WX0STL) net has not been activated. In this case, it will be left to the discretion of the Emergency Coordinator, or an Assistant, SKYWARN Coordinator, or Assistant to call a SKYWARN net.
4. The WX or WX-alert courtesy beeps should be activated on the repeater for any Watch/Warning statements issued by the NWS which affect our immediate area. The SKYWARN Coordinator or Assistant SKYWARN Coordinator(s) are responsible for this activation
5. Once activated, the Net Control Station (NCS) should immediately select a trained and competent amateur radio operator to act as liaison between the Madison County SKYWARN and WX0STL, St. Louis National Weather Service Severe Weather Net. This person will monitor the Mid-Missouri "Show Me" Intertie Linked System for requests from the NWS and also relay any severe weather reports to the NWS as directed by the NCS. (It is suggested this person have previous net control experience or equivalent capabilities.) At the discretion of the NCS, other liaison operators may be selected from the check-ins to work with other SKYWARN nets active within the region. These liaison operators are expected to gather and disseminate severe weather reports to other regional weather nets as necessary.
6. The Net Control Station should collect reports of severe weather and storm damage from stations which check into the net. At the NCS's discretion, severe weather reports should be relayed to WX0STL, St. Louis National Weather Service Severe Weather Net. As needed, the NCS should update the check-ins with new statements or warnings issued from the NWS.
7. Once severe weather has passed through the Madison County SKYWARN Net counties of responsibility, the net may be secured by the NCS. However, the NCS should check with WX0STL to verify no further information will be requested from them. Also, surrounding counties may request "relay" stations to WX0STL. If assistance is required, the NCS should not secure the net until all requests can be handled properly.
8. Pending closure of the SKYWARN net, NCS should notify all liaison stations to notify their contacts of the impending status of closing the net. The net should not be closed until it can be verified by the liaison stations the net is no longer required.
9. Upon closure, the NCS should return the SKYWARN repeater back to normal operations and deactivate the WX tail message.

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APPENDIX A

MADISON COUNTY, ILLINOIS SKYWARN NET OPERATING PROCEDURES



APPENDIX B
MID-MISSOURI SHOW-ME INTERTIE