



## A Notice to All ARRL Members in the Roanoke Division Regarding the COVID-19 (“Novel Coronavirus”) Situation:

ARRL is encouraging all Amateur Radio clubs and event organizers to follow the edicts and guidance of cognizant government and public health officials on whether to cancel Ham Radio gatherings. Although ARRL headquarters staff members in Newington, Connecticut are under a travel restriction at present, ARRL has not and will not set policy on the status of field events. Nevertheless, ARRL does strongly recommend that all clubs and individuals adhere to any restrictions put in place by their own government and public health authorities.

Please feel free to use the ARRL Roanoke Division Facebook page to post updates on any Ham Radio events in the states of Virginia, West Virginia, North Carolina, and South Carolina. Several clubs in the Roanoke Division have already changed their regularly scheduled meetings into on-air gatherings on repeaters and the HF bands. Now is the time for Amateur Radio operators everywhere to show leadership – not only by complying with safe health practices, but also by using this time to sharpen our operating skills. While we hope that COVID-19 will exit quickly, and "with a whimper instead of a bang," we have no idea what course future events will take, so please keep in mind that we may be called upon when we are least expected to utilize the capabilities of our equipment, our public service initiatives, and ourselves for the public good.

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Bud Hippisley, W2RU, Director and Bill Morine, N2COP, Vice Director

