

Forest Field Day

Forest Field Day - Beginner Ham Radio Workshop

Group Members:

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Event Overview:

- **Name of the Event:** Forest Field Day
- **Number of Participants:** 4-8 people (plus at least 4 coordinators, with at least one YL)
- **Level of Experience:** Beginner, ages 7+ (participants have just obtained their licenses)
- **Duration:** 1 day (from 9 AM to 4 PM)
- **Location/Space Needed:**
 - A public park with enough open space for setting up tents and radio stations.
 - Areas for antenna-building, ARDF (Amateur Radio Direction Finding) activities, and socializing.

Food:

- **Meals:**
 - Participants should bring their own lunch boxes.
 - BBQ equipment for group cooking (participants can bring their own meat and sides).
 - Snacks and desserts can be ordered or brought by participants (e.g., fruits, cookies).

Budget:

- **Costs:**
 - Event budget: \$200 - \$450 (10 Euros per person).
 - Funding options:
 - Ask for sponsorships from public park authorities or foundations.
 - Contribution from participants to cover food, BBQ items, and materials.

Materials and Equipment Needed:

- **Radio Equipment:**
 - 1 radio station for group use.
 - Antennas (materials for making antennas).
 - Phonetic alphabet code cards.
- **Field Day Equipment:**
 - Tents for participants and coordinators.
 - ARDF receiver/transceiver for Fox Hunting.
 - Ropes or flags for marking boundaries for activities.
 - BBQ equipment for lunch.
- **Additional Supplies:**
 - Flashlights, water bottles, and basic outdoor supplies.

Organizer's Preparations:

- **Tents:** Set up tents for group activities, shelter, and BBQ station.
- **Equipment Testing:** Ensure that the radio station, ARDF receivers, and other materials are functioning correctly.
- **Phonetic Alphabet Cards:** Print and prepare phonetic alphabet flashcards for the "battleship" game.
- **Safety Gear:** Make sure all participants are briefed on outdoor safety and ARDF rules.
- **Entertainment:** Prepare short, engaging movie clips related to ham radio to break up the hands-on activities.

What Participants Need to Bring:

- Flashlights, water bottles, sun protection (hats, sunscreen).
- Comfortable outdoor clothing and shoes suitable for walking and physical activity.

- Optional: Snacks and drinks for sharing during breaks.

Event Structure:

Time	Activity	Description
9:00-9:30	Welcome & Introduction	Participants arrive and settle in. Brief introduction to the day's schedule, safety guidelines, and objectives.
9:30-10:30	Antenna Building Workshop	Hands-on session where participants learn to build a simple antenna using the provided materials.
10:30-11:00	Movie Clips & Discussion	Watch short educational clips on ham radio, its history, and its modern-day uses (emergency communication, space).
11:00-1:00	Phonetic Code Battleship Game	A fun, interactive game where participants practice the phonetic alphabet using a "battleship"-style format.
1:00-2:00	BBQ Lunch Break	Participants enjoy a BBQ lunch, socialize, and discuss ham radio topics with coordinators.
2:00-4:00	Fox Hunting (ARDF)	Introduction to ARDF (Amateur Radio Direction Finding). Participants form teams and hunt for hidden transmitters using ARDF receivers.
4:00 PM	Closing & Departure	Recap of the day, certificate or small gift for participants, and goodbyes.

Detailed Event Breakdown:

1. Welcome & Introduction (9:00-9:30 AM):

- Greet participants and give a brief overview of the day's activities.
- Go over safety instructions and explain the objectives of the event.
- Set the tone for a fun and educational day in nature.

2. Antenna Building Workshop (9:30-10:30 AM):

- **Objective:** Teach participants how to construct a simple antenna.
- **Activity:** Using materials provided (e.g., wire, poles, connectors), participants will work in pairs or small groups to build an antenna.

- **Outcome:** By the end of this session, participants should be familiar with basic antenna construction principles and how to connect the antenna to a radio station.

3. Movie Clips & Discussion (10:30-11:00 AM):

- **Objective:** Introduce ham radio through entertaining and educational videos.
- **Activity:** Watch short clips that explain the basics of ham radio, its historical importance, and its application in modern times (e.g., emergency communications, satellite operations).
- **Outcome:** Participants gain a better understanding of why ham radio is important and exciting.

4. Phonetic Code Battleship Game (11:00 AM - 1:00 PM):

- **Objective:** Help participants learn and practice the **ICAO Phonetic Alphabet** in a fun way.
- **Activity:**
 - Split participants into teams and play a battleship-style game using the phonetic alphabet.
 - Teams will call out grid coordinates using the phonetic alphabet (e.g., "Bravo 3") to try and "hit" the opponent's ships.
 - This game reinforces the phonetic alphabet while adding an element of competition.
- **Outcome:** Participants become more comfortable with using the phonetic alphabet, an essential skill in ham radio.

5. BBQ Lunch Break (1:00-2:00 PM):

- **Objective:** Socialize and relax while enjoying a BBQ lunch.
- **Activity:**
 - Participants can cook their food over a BBQ, chat about the morning activities, and enjoy the natural surroundings.
 - Coordinators can use this time to answer any questions about ham radio or give one-on-one attention to participants who need help.

6. Fox Hunting (ARDF) (2:00-4:00 PM):

- **Objective:** Introduce participants to **Amateur Radio Direction Finding (ARDF)**, also known as "fox hunting."
- **Activity:**
 - Split participants into teams.
 - Teach the basics of ARDF, where teams use radio receivers to locate hidden transmitters (the "foxes") placed around the park.
 - Teams compete to see who can find all the transmitters the fastest.

- **Outcome:** Participants learn how to use direction-finding equipment and gain experience in tracking signals.

7. Closing & Departure (4:00 PM):

- Gather all participants for a brief closing ceremony.
- Recap the day's lessons and activities, highlighting what was learned.
- Give participants a small certificate or souvenir to commemorate their participation.
- Thank everyone for attending and encourage them to continue exploring ham radio!

Learning Objectives:

- Teach participants how to build and set up antennas for ham radio.
- Help them become comfortable with using the phonetic alphabet during radio communication.
- Provide hands-on experience with ARDF (Fox Hunting) to develop their direction-finding skills.
- Create a fun and engaging environment that encourages participants to explore ham radio further in the future.

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