



Lake County  
Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Service ®  
Amateur Radio Emergency Services ®  
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For Immediate Release

## **DHS Proclaims September "National Preparedness Month"**

Libertyville, IL September 15, 2006 --The Lake County Sheriff and Emergency Management Agency will be among dozens of organizations and agencies participating in National Preparedness Month in September. The campaign, headed by the US Department of Homeland Security (DHS <<http://www.dhs.gov/dhspublic/>>), is aimed at making citizen preparedness "a priority for every city, every neighborhood and every home" in the US. The Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Services (R.A.C.E.S.) amateur radio operators in Lake County are also celebrating their 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary this year. They are also playing an important role in National Preparedness Month along with agencies from all over Lake County by participating in the annual Simulated Emergency Test (S.E.T.) on Saturday, September 16.

"This annual event offers great opportunities for the volunteer amateur radio operators to showcase the valuable service they provide to the county," said Lake County RACES Radio Officer Bruce Becker- also known by his amateur radio call sign "N9VID". Becker has encouraged other amateur radio operators throughout the county to take advantage of the occasion to set up and operate during this simulated emergency test. "This will really demonstrate the valuable services these dedicated amateur radio operators provide to the county - at no cost to the taxpayers" Becker emphasized.

"This is also an excellent opportunity to recruit prospective candidates for the licensing classes that will be offered by various clubs this fall," Lake County RACES Emergency Coordinator Don Whitney –K9DRW, added. Amateur Radio operators are licensed by the FCC after taking several classes followed by a test in radio communications. In addition, our Emergency Management Agency in Lake County, headed by Director David Christensen encourages all Lake County residents to have a family emergency plan in place in case of any emergency, including a severe weather event. A suggested list of supplies is available on their web site.

For more information, please visit these websites:

Emergency Preparation, visit <<http://www.ready.gov/>>,

National Association for Amateur Radio <[http://www.arrl.org](http://www.arrl.org/)>,

Lake County Emergency Management Agency, please go to:

< <http://www.co.lake.il.us/sheriff/divisions/emergenc.asp> >,

Lake County RACES < [www.races.org](http://www.races.org) >.

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