



## SECARS

# The Southeastern Connecticut Amateur Radio Society

### **Congratulations and Welcome to Amateur Radio!**

Congratulations on passing your Technician exam. Shortly, you will receive your amateur radio callsign and become a member of the amateur radio community. Amateur radio provides a lifetime of learning opportunities and offers something to everyone in the hobby. Popular activities include foxhunting, meeting other hams with common interests in roundtable discussions called nets, using repeaters, exploring digital modes like DStar or DMR, HF digital operations with FT8 and much more. You can use VHF/UHF weak signal modes to contact people far away using satellites, or take your gear to the top of a local hill or mountain and use a directional antenna to set a personal distance record. You can also use your skills for public service by providing communications support for local marathons or get involved with emergency communications through ARES (the Amateur Radio Emergency Service). Finally, there are local groups such as SECARS (The Southeastern CT Amateur Radio Society) that offer mentoring, comradery and activities where you can explore more aspects of the hobby.

The first thing you should do is check for your callsign, which will be issued by the FCC when your application is processed. Processing usually happens on Tuesdays and Wednesdays, and you can use the FCC Universal Licensing System (ULS) to check for your callsign.

Go to this website: <https://wireless2.fcc.gov/UlsApp/UlsSearch/searchAmateur.jsp> and enter your name in this format: Last Name, First Name, Middle Initial. Once you see your callsign you are fully authorized to use your privileges and get on the air!

### **Where Can I Get Help?**

Now that you have your license, we want to help you get on the air. There are many resources on the internet that you can use. Check out the following websites:

American Radio Relay League: [www.arrl.org](http://www.arrl.org)

Amateur Radio Callsign Lookup and Internet Forum: [www.qrz.com](http://www.qrz.com)

General Information: [www.eham.net](http://www.eham.net)

SECARS e-mail reflector: [secars@groups.io](mailto:secars@groups.io) - we highly recommend you join this group to get local information and learn more about our group

SECARS website: <https://secars.org> – learn more about our group and get information on activities, meetings, nets and projects you can build.

Some good radio equipment vendors are:

[www.hamradio.com](http://www.hamradio.com) – Ham Radio Outlet

[www.dxengineering.com](http://www.dxengineering.com) – DX Engineering

We also encourage you to contact SECARS members who are available to answer specific questions about the hobby and get you started. You can send a general question to our membership at [SECARS@groups.io](mailto:SECARS@groups.io).

### **About the Southeastern Connecticut Amateur Radio Society:**

SECARS was established in 2023 and resulted from the consolidation of the Radio Amateur Society of Norwich (RASON) and the Tri-City Amateur Radio Club. We maintain a repeater on 146.730 MHz with a PL of 156.7 Hz. SECARS hosts several on air nets that are held on this repeater throughout the week. Popular nets include the VHF/UHF net, which meets every Sunday at 8:00 PM. This net discusses upcoming activities and is a good forum to catch up with other local amateurs. The Southeastern CT traffic net is held every night at 9:00 PM. The first part of the net is devoted to traffic handling (passing messages to other amateurs or non-hams), followed by a general discussion that usually begins 10-15 minutes later. Bring your topics of interest to discuss – or use this as an opportunity to meet new people.

SECARS is an active group. We host regular foxhunts, which are basically high-tech games of hide and seek. Someone hides somewhere in Southeastern CT (usually in the Norwich area) and transmits at regular intervals over a 2-3 hour period. Hams are encouraged to hone their direction-finding skills and find the hidden transmitter – first by driving and then on foot once at the hiding place. A short social event usually follows.

We are also active in various contests, including Winter Field Day and Summer Field Day. These are national contests (with international participation) emphasizing emergency preparedness and operator skill. They are also educational activities, and we encourage new hams to participate. Our group sets up tents and stations on different amateur radio bands and modes – including CW, SSB and digital modes. No equipment is needed, and we have Extra class control operators present, so you can try out new frequencies or modes that normally would not be accessible without a license upgrade. It is also a great setting to learn new skills, and there are plenty of experienced operators who will help you learn new things about the hobby. SECARS also participates in the June and September VHF/UHF contests, where we set up portable stations and work hams in as many different grid squares as possible. Grid squares denote different sections of the globe – divided by 1° latitude x 2° longitude (70 miles x 100 miles). Come try out some interesting equipment and modes for weak signal work!

SECARS sponsors biannual auctions – which offer the opportunity to buy or sell amateur radio gear, parts and other items. These auctions are held at the Our Lady of Lourdes Church Hall (Gales Ferry, CT) in Spring and Fall. This is a great opportunity to meet other amateur radio operators, get some advice and pick up some gear. Prices are usually very reasonable at these events.

Finally, SECARS hosts technical seminars. Lectures are usually given the fourth Thursday of each month at 7:00 PM on Zoom and cover a wide variety of topics, such as foxhunting, satellite work, using micro-controllers in the ham shack, assembling go-kits for portable operating and much more. We also have recorded sessions available for learning Morse Code.

### **Becoming a SECARS Member:**

All licensed amateur radio operators are eligible to join SECARS. Dues are \$20 for individual membership and \$5 for each additional family member (more than one licensed amateur at the same address). Your

membership dues support repeater maintenance, utilities and group activities. All members have voting privileges at our monthly business meetings. We meet at 7:30 PM on the second Thursday of every month at the Uncasville Red Cross – 1031 Norwich-New London Turnpike, Uncasville, CT, and we offer a Zoom attendance option. If you would like to join our group, please go online to [secars.org](https://secars.org) to complete your application and submit your dues by PayPal. If you prefer to complete a hardcopy application, please fill out the attached form and send it, along with your first year's dues, to SECARS, PO Box 73, Gales Ferry, CT 06335. You can also bring your completed application to our meeting as an alternative.

**SECARS Nets and Activities:**

You can find a list of our Nets (Roundtable amateur radio discussions on a specific topic or area of interest) at <https://secars.org/nets/>

You can find a description of our group's activities, including foxhunts, field day, our annual picnic and our annual auction at <https://secars.org/activities/>

New Member Application - SECARS

**The Southeastern CT Amateur Radio Society**

PO Box 73  
Gales Ferry, CT 06335

**Application for Membership**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Call Sign: \_\_\_\_\_ License Class: \_\_\_\_\_

ARRL Member: Y / N      ARES Member: Y / N

Membership class:

Individual (\$20)     Family (\$20 + \$5 for each member over 18)

Year of Application: \_\_\_\_\_ (Dues cover Oct. through Oct.)

List Family Members if Applicable:

Name	Callsign/Class	ARRL(Y/N)	ARES(Y/N)
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____

List Your Special Interests / Activities in Amateur Radio:

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Club use only:

Dues Paid: \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

New Member: Approved by: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

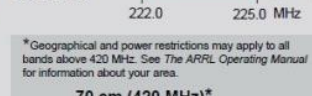
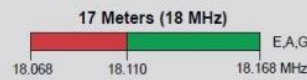
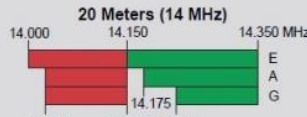
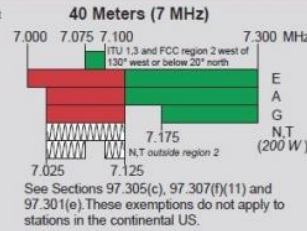
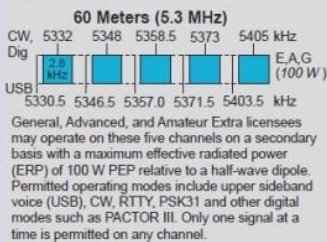
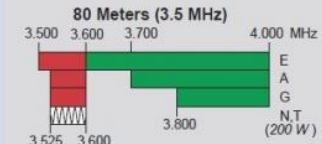
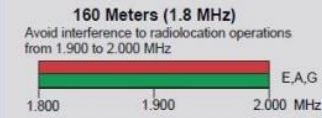
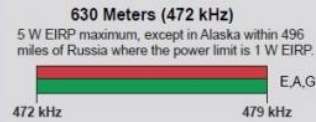
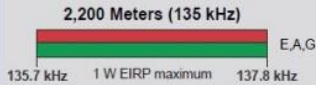
# US Amateur Radio Bands

**US AMATEUR POWER LIMITS** — FCC 97.313 An amateur station must use the minimum transmitter power necessary to carry out the desired communications. (b) No station may transmit with a transmitter power exceeding 1.5 kW PEP.

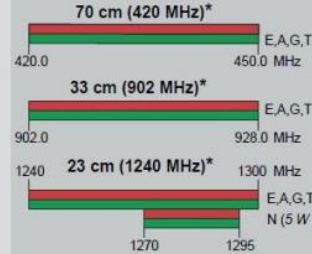


**ARRL** The national association for AMATEUR RADIO®

Amateurs wishing to operate on either 2,200 or 630 meters must first register with the Utilities Technology Council online at <https://utc.org/plc-database-amateur-notification-process/>. You need only register once for each band.



\*Geographical and power restrictions may apply to all bands above 420 MHz. See *The ARRL Operating Manual* for information about your area.



All licensees except Novices are authorized all modes on the following frequencies:

2300-2310 MHz	10.0-10.5 GHz ‡	122.25-123.0 GHz
2390-2450 MHz	24.0-24.25 GHz	134-141 GHz
3300-3500 MHz	47.0-47.2 GHz	241-250 GHz
5650-5925 MHz	76.0-81.0 GHz	All above 275 GHz

‡ No pulse emissions

**KEY**

**Note:**  
 CW operation is permitted throughout all amateur bands.  
 MICW is authorized above 50.1 MHz, except for 144.0-144.1 and 219-220 MHz.  
 Test transmissions are authorized above 51 MHz, except for 219-220 MHz.

- = RTTY and data
- = phone and image
- = CW only
- = SSB phone
- = USB phone, CW, RTTY, and data
- = Fixed digital message forwarding systems only

E = Amateur Extra  
 A = Advanced  
 G = General  
 T = Technician  
 N = Novice

See [ARRLWeb.org](http://ARRLWeb.org) for detailed band plans.

## ARRL We're At Your Service

ARRL Headquarters:  
 860-594-0200 (Fax 860-594-0259)  
 email: [hq@arrl.org](mailto:hq@arrl.org)

Publication Orders:  
[www.arrl.org/shop](http://www.arrl.org/shop)  
 Toll-Free 1-888-277-5289 (860-594-0355)  
 email: [orders@arrl.org](mailto:orders@arrl.org)

Membership/Circulation Desk:  
[www.arrl.org/membership](http://www.arrl.org/membership)  
 Toll-Free 1-888-277-5289 (860-594-0336)  
 email: [membership@arrl.org](mailto:membership@arrl.org)

Getting Started in Amateur Radio:  
 Toll-Free 1-800-326-3942 (860-594-0355)  
 email: [newham@arrl.org](mailto:newham@arrl.org)

Exams: 860-594-0300 email: [vec@arrl.org](mailto:vec@arrl.org)