

Westchester Emergency Communications Association, Inc.

<http://www.weca.org>

Repeater Acceptable Use Policy (AUP)

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The Westchester Emergency Communications Association (WECA) membership, Executive Board and Trustee welcomes the use of its repeater system by all licensed Amateur Radio operators.

The following rules are established to promote the enjoyable, active use of the WECA Repeater System as well as enjoyable passive listening. All users shall abide by all provisions in FCC Part 97 and these rules while using the system. Stations that violate one or more of these rules may be requested to cease the offending practice. Repeated violations may result in the violator's use of the WECA Repeater System being curtailed.

1. All stations accessing any voice repeater in the WECA Repeater System shall identify itself according to the requirements in the FCC Rules Part §97.119 Station identification which reads in part:

Each amateur station . . . must transmit its assigned call sign on its transmitting channel at the end of each communication, and at least every 10 minutes during a communication, for the purpose of clearly making the source of the transmissions from the station known to those receiving the transmissions.

Good Amateur practice suggests identifying by call sign at the start of the first transmission when accessing any repeater. When checking into a net or making an initial call on a repeater, it is recommended the call sign be given phonetically.

2. When in conversation with another station, all stations shall pause before transmitting to allow the repeater timer to reset. The indicator that the timer is reset is the tone (beep) transmitted by the repeater controller. "Waiting for the beep" ensures that the transmitting station will get a full 3 minutes of repeater time (30 seconds in emergency mode). Avoid lengthy conversations without pausing occasionally between transmissions. This in no way means keep the repeater quiet. On the contrary, the repeater is on the air to be used and we are very happy when it is busy. It does, however, mean that we all should remember to leave pauses so others may break in if they need to use the repeater or join the conversation.
3. Stations wishing to join a conversation shall do so by transmitting their call sign when the currently transmitting station stops transmitting and before the beep. Stations in conversation shall immediately recognize the breaking station and request that the station join the conversation. Always immediately yield the frequency to a breaking station because the station may have emergency traffic.
4. The pro sign "break" has a very specific meaning in Amateur Radio. Do not use it when breaking into a conversation unless you have emergency traffic.
5. Yield use of the repeater to recognized activities such as scheduled nets, public service events, incident response activities, or any directed net.
6. Do not engage in political or religious conversations or any topic that defames or may embarrass any one or can be interpreted as personal antagonisms. Do not engage in any derogatory remarks directed at any person or group (political, ethnic, racial, religious, sexual orientation, etc.) or use obscene or indecent language.

7. Selling items, other than the casual, occasional sale of Amateur Radio related equipment, or conducting any business related conversations is prohibited by FCC Part 97 rules and is not allowed on any WECA repeater system.
8. Ignore jamming or interfering stations. Do not antagonize interfering stations! Do send a signal report by email to TWIT@WECA.org as soon as possible including details of what was happening with dates, time, and nature of interference and signal strength even if nothing is heard. If possible immediately contact the Repeater Operations or Engineering Director by text or phone to inform them of the current jamming activity.