



Joint DECT/MARC Field Day 2024



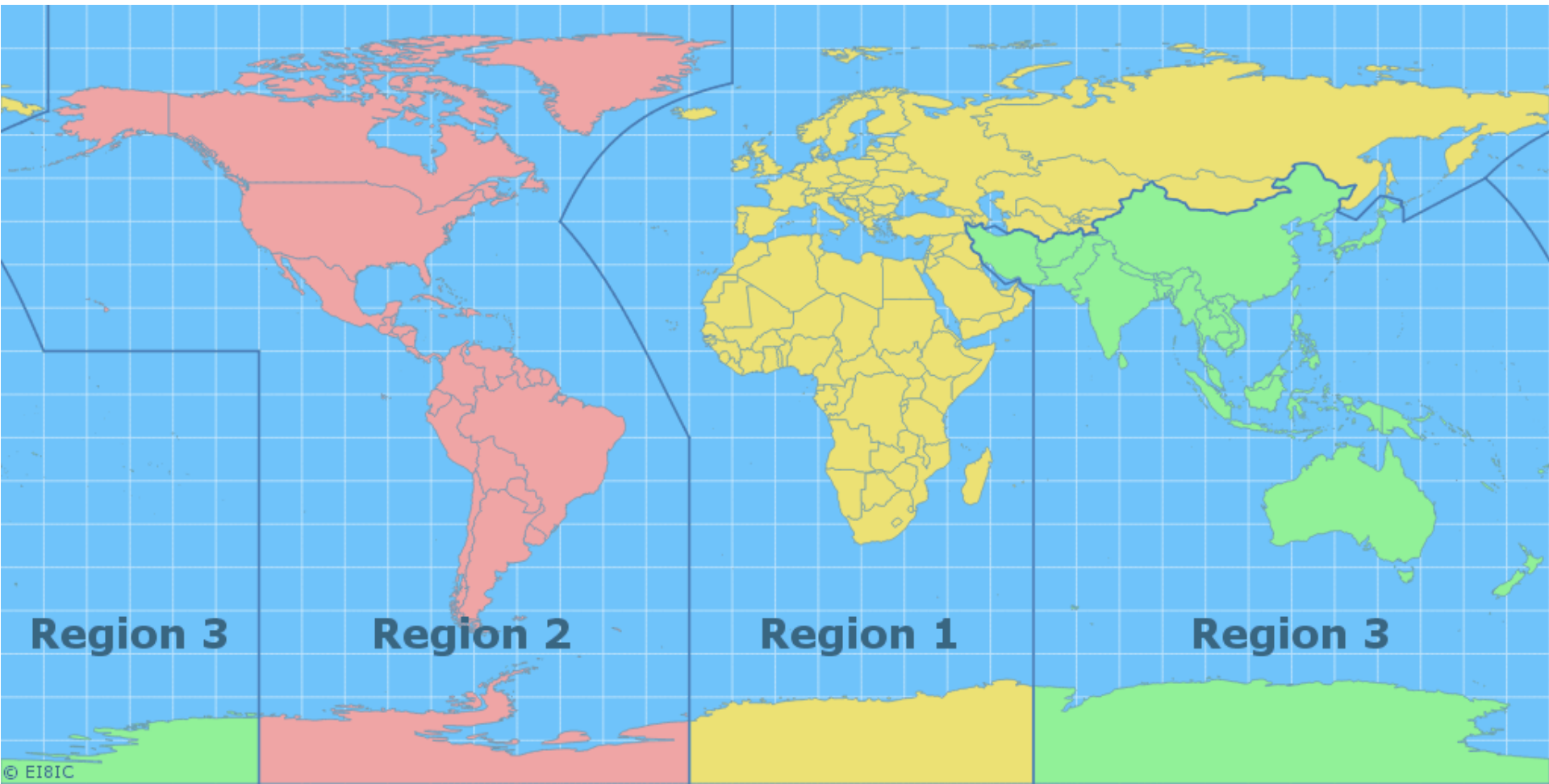
Purpose

- **Mobilization Exercise:** Operate in abnormal situations in less than optimal conditions to develop skills for **emergency preparedness**
- **Contest:** Work as many stations as possible on the **160, 80, 40, 20, 15 and 10 Meter HF** bands, as well as all bands **50 MHz and above**
 - Phone contacts count one point each.
 - CW and digital contacts count two points each.
 - Bonus points also awarded for other related activities, such as operating the GOTA station, public relations, visits by elected officials and media advertising
- **Public Relations:** Acquaint the general public with the capabilities of amateur radio.
- **Have fun!**



Who Can Participate

Amateurs covered by ARRL/RAC (Radio Amateurs of Canada)
in IARU (International Amateur Radio Union) Region 2





Dates and Times

- **Date:**
 - Always scheduled for the fourth full weekend in June.
 - This year it is June 22-23.
- **Contest for 24 Hours:**
 - Contact as many other stations in the U.S. and Canada as possible. Points given and club scores published later.
 - Begins 2:00 p.m. Saturday
 - Ends 2:00 p.m. Sunday
 - Set up begins Thursday evening, total set-up time not to exceed 24 hours.
 - Take down on Sunday after 2:00 (or maybe earlier, depending)



ARRL Rules Apply for Field Day

- (Class A) Club / non-club portable: Three or more persons set up specifically for Field Day.
- Stations must be located in places that are not regular station locations.
- All equipment (including antennas) must lie within a circle whose diameter does not exceed 300 meters (1000 feet).
- All contacts must be made with transmitter(s) and receiver(s) **operating independent of commercial power mains.**
- ***Read more here - <http://arrl.org/field-day-rules>***



GOTA Station

- The primary role of the GOTA or "Get On The Air" station at Field Day is education.
- Members of the general public of all ages are welcome as well as licensed hams that are inactive, moderately active or have yet to hold a QSO (conversational exchange of information) on HF (High Frequency Ham Radio, typically the 160 Meters thru 6 Meters).
- Kids of all ages are welcome.



Eleventh Annual DECT/MARC Joint Field Day



- MARC partners with the Damascus Emergency Communications Team of the Damascus Volunteer Fire Department
- This is our eleventh annual DECT/MARC Amateur Radio Field Day!
- Location: Pavilion of the Damascus Volunteer Fire Department Visitor's Center.

Our Gracious DVFD Hosts







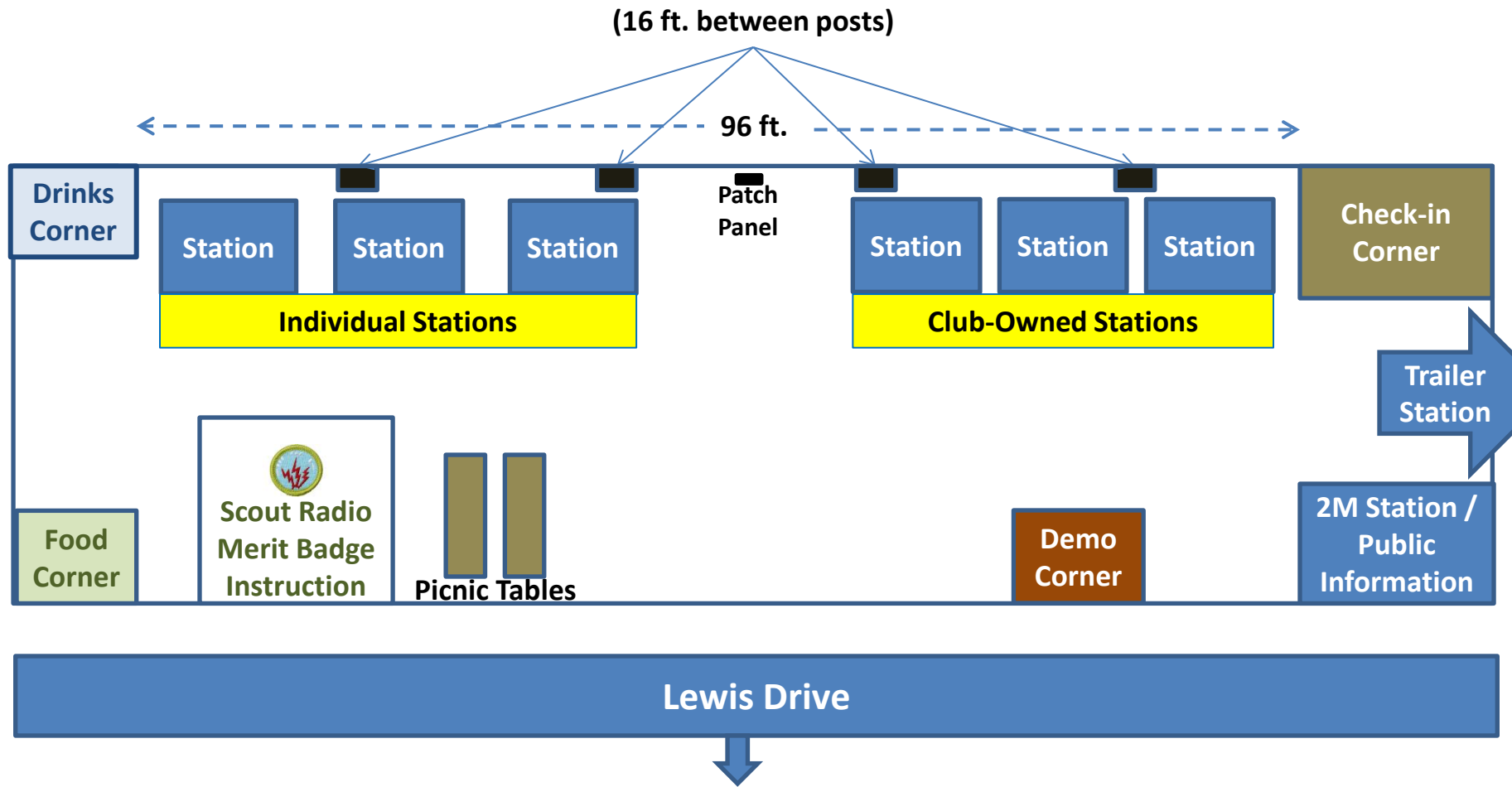
DECT/MARC Field Day 2024

Damascus Volunteer Fire Department

Visitor's Center Pavilion

10211 Lewis Dr, Damascus, MD 20872

DAMASCUS EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS TEAM



Open space across street for camping and additional ham stations



DECT/MARC Field Day Details

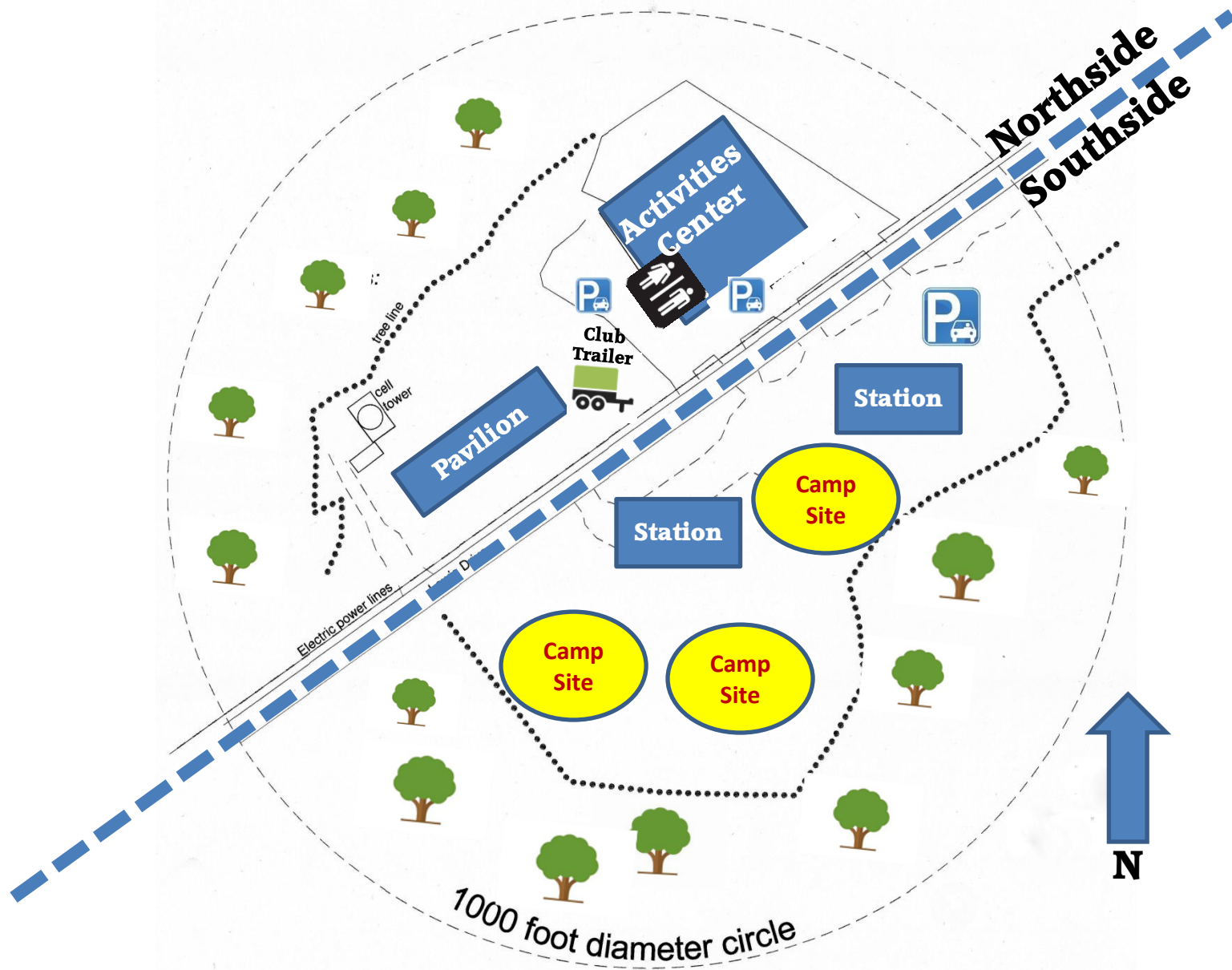


- Special Event Call sign is Whiskey 3 Mike
- 1,000 foot diameter circle includes all of pavilion area and across the street (additional operating space)
- Operating class will be determined by the final number of stations transmitting simultaneously
- Our ARRL section is Maryland/DC, abbreviated **MDC**.
- Stations can be worked once per band per mode
- No “dupes” – cannot log a station more than once
- To prevent dupes we have a logging program



1000 Ft. Diameter Operating Area

DAMASCUS EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS TEAM





Individual and Club-Owned Stations



- FD participants can either:
 - Bring personal radio equipment, or;
 - Operate one of the club-owned radio stations in the pavilion and the club trailer, which will be available 24-hours of contesting
- Individual and club stations will coordinate in advance band/modes to be used
- Contesting area will be roped off to keep public at safe distance



Operating inside club trailer



Public Information and 2-Meter Radio Station





DECT/MARC FD's Past

DAMASCUS EMERGENCY
COMMUNICATIONS TEAM



**No more heavy towers...
Set up for 2024 quicker and easier**





Set-Up and Take-Down Simplified for 2024



- This year, lighter, easier to install antennas make all the difference!
- Friday - antennas set up and cordoned off with safety tape.





Set-Up and Take-Down Simplified for 2024



- **Saturday – early start**
 - Scouts and public begin to arrive by 1000 hours; so plan to arrive around 0800 if not earlier.
 - Hams bringing their own radio/antennas on Saturday morning:
 - Friday is the day for new equipment out of the box or testing new equipment.
 - No new antennas/radios out of a box or testing on Saturday, out of an abundance of caution because of the many people (hams, public and scouts) inside the pavilion.
 - If you arrive by 0800, you can pull up alongside the pavilion (NOT inside) to unload and then immediately re-park in one of the designated parking spaces.
 - Contesting begins at 1400 and runs continuously for 24 hours.
- **Sunday**
 - Contesting ends at 1400 hours
 - Take-down of non-essential supplies begins earlier. Antennas taken down after 1400.

**Food and drinks supplied free of charge
all days**



Scout Radio Merit Badge



- 43 scouts earned their Radio Merit Badge on Saturday of Field Day 2023
 - Two hours of instruction followed by hands-on operating time
 - Most scouts finished and lined up to get their blue cards signed by 4:00
- MARC won a grant to fund supplies for the Scout Merit Badge at FD 2024





Demos / Special Stations



- Winlink
- APRS
- Digital Radio
- 2-Meter Station for Scouts and Public
- Satellite Station







Purpose of National ARRL FIELD Day



Educate the Public

Practice Operational Skills



HAVE FUN!

