

WAR BOX
PACE COMMS CARD

FILLED EXAMPLE · MADE-UP DATA

GROUP / PLAN Maple Hollow neighbors (example)	EFFECTIVE 2026-11-01 0600	REVIEW BY 2027-02-01	TIMES Local time, 24 h	NET CONTROL BASE (home station)	CHECK-IN FORMAT (SAME ORDER EVERY TIME) Call sign · Location · Status (GREEN / AMBER / RED) · Needs · Next check-in
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■ **PACE PLAN** work down the levels in order; everyone carries the same card

LEVEL	METHOD AND DEVICE	FREQUENCY / CHANNEL	MODE	CTCSS TONE	CALL SIGNS AND ID	CHECK-IN WINDOWS	MOVE TO NEXT LEVEL WHEN
P PRIMARY	GMRS: HG-5 HTs (5 W) + BASE MG-50 (50 W, mast antenna)	GMRS ch 17 462.6000 MHz simplex	FM	103.5 Hz TX + RX	BASE, MOBILE 1, MOBILE 2 ID: GMRS call WRXX000 (sample), every 15 min + at end	Daily 0700 / 1200 / 1900, :00-:05 During an event: every hour, :00-:05	2 missed check-ins in a row, or ch 17 unusable for 10 min
A ALTERNATE	MURS: HM-2 HTs (2 W). License-free, so unlicensed members can join	MURS ch 3 151.9400 MHz simplex	NFM (11.25 kHz)	100.0 Hz TX + RX	Same tactical calls No FCC call sign needed	:10-:15 after a missed Primary window	No answer by :15, or MURS unusable
C CONTINGENCY	2 m ham: MOBILE 1 AM-250 (50 W), BASE AD-25 HT (5 W). Licensed operators only	Call 146.5200, then QSY to 146.5500 simplex	FM	None	Tactical call + FCC call (NOCALL placeholder) ID every 10 min + at end	:20-:30 after a missed Alternate window	No contact by the next scheduled window, or all radios down
E EMERGENCY	In person: go to the rally point, leave a written note	Rally point ALPHA, then BRAVO	—	—	—	ALPHA: hold 30 min BRAVO: 0800 + 1600 daily, hold 60 min	Last level. If ALPHA is unsafe, go straight to BRAVO

■ **RADIOS, ANTENNAS AND POWER** every radio on the plan, with what it runs on

STATION	RADIO (MAKE, MODEL)	POWER OUT	ANTENNA AND FEEDLINE	BATTERY / SUPPLY
BASE	Varlund MG-50 GMRS mobile (example), run as base	50 W max; 15 W on the local net	6 dBi fiberglass vertical (462-467 MHz) on a mast, top ~25 ft AGL. 50 ft LMR-400 (~1.4 dB loss), arrestor at entry	13.8 V 30 A supply, 100 Ah LiFePO4 floated behind it, takes over in an outage
BASE	Aldermoor AD-25 2 m / 70 cm HT (example)	5 W high / 1 W low	15.6 in dual-band whip. Backup: roll-up 2 m J-pole hung high	1,800 mAh Li-ion pack + 6× AA battery shell
MOBILE 1	Aldermoor AM-250 2 m mobile (example)	50 W high / 10 W low	5/8-wave 2 m mag-mount (~48 in, ~3 dB), roof center, 17 ft RG-58	Truck 12 V, fused leads straight to the battery
BASE, MOBILE 1, MOBILE 2	Varlund HG-5 5 W GMRS HT (example), 3 units	5 W high / 1 W low	15 in whip. Stock stubby as backup	2,000 mAh Li-ion pack + AA battery shell
BASE, MOBILE 1, MOBILE 2	Varlund HM-2 2 W MURS HT (example), 3 units	2 W (MURS max)	19 in VHF whip (151-154 MHz). Stock antenna as backup	1,500 mAh Li-ion pack + AA battery shell
SPARES AND CHARGING	24× AA lithium for the shells (rotate yearly) · spare Li-ion pack per HT · USB-C and 12 V chargers for every HT · 100 W folding panel + 10 A controller tops up the base LiFePO4 (~5 A in full sun) · 500 Wh power station runs the HT chargers			

■ **BEFORE YOU NEED IT**

- ☐ Every radio programmed from the channel plan (page 2) and tested on every channel
- ☐ Batteries charged, spares packed, and a way to charge them without grid power
- ☐ Everyone in the group has this card and knows the check-in windows
- ☐ Run the plan once a month: check in on Primary, then walk it down to Emergency
- ☐ Licenses current: GMRS for the family, ham for each operator who transmits

■ **LICENSING**

GMRS needs an FCC license (no exam; it covers your immediate family). **Ham** frequencies need an FCC amateur license (Technician or higher) for anyone who transmits. **MURS** is license-free on certified radios, 2 W max. GMRS power depends on the channel: up to 50 W on main channels 15-22 (ch 17 included) and repeaters, 5 W ERP on 1-7, 0.5 W on 8-14. Anyone can listen. GMRS and ham rules ban codes meant to hide a message's meaning, so keep brevity words plain and shared.

RADIO AND CHANNEL PLAN

program these memories into every radio in the same order

MEM	NAME	RX MHZ	TX MHZ	DUPLEX	CTCSS TX / RX	MODE	POWER	SERVICE	USE
1	GMRS17	462.6000	462.6000	Simplex	103.5 / 103.5	FM	High	GMRS	Primary net
2	GMRS19R	462.6500	467.6500	+5.000	131.8 / 131.8	FM	High	GMRS	Area repeater (example; use its published tone)
3	GMRS20	462.6750	462.6750	Simplex	141.3 / 141.3	FM	High	GMRS	Monitor: traditional travelers' / emergency channel
4	MURS3	151.9400	151.9400	Simplex	100.0 / 100.0	NFM	2 W	MURS	Alternate net
5	MURS1	151.8200	151.8200	Simplex	None	NFM	2 W	MURS	Spare
6	2M CALL	146.5200	146.5200	Simplex	None	FM	High	Ham	National 2 m simplex calling. Call, then move
7	2M WORK	146.5500	146.5500	Simplex	None	FM	High	Ham	Contingency working freq (check your area band plan)
8	70CM CL	446.0000	446.0000	Simplex	None	FM	High	Ham	National 70 cm simplex calling
9	WX1	162.5500	—	RX only	—	FM	—	NOAA	Weather radio, receive only

BREVITY WORDS

plain shorthand, not codes

WORD	MEANING
STATUS GREEN	All safe. No needs
STATUS AMBER	Safe, but need help or supplies. Not urgent
STATUS RED	Emergency. Need help now. Give location next
GO ALTERNATE	Switch to the next PACE level now
RALLY ALPHA / BRAVO	Move to that rally point
WAIT ONE	Stand by, I'll come back to you
SAY AGAIN	Repeat your last message
WILCO	Understood, will comply
LIMA CHARLIE	Loud and clear
OUT	Done talking. No reply needed

RALLY POINTS

RP	WHERE	ROUTE IN	HOLD / WINDOWS	SIGN LEFT
ALPHA	Home: north fence gate (example)	—	Hold 30 min, then BRAVO	Note in the mailbox
BRAVO	Community center lot, Oak Ln (example)	Oak Ln. Alt: creek trail	0800 + 1600 daily, hold 60 min	Orange tape on lot sign = been here, gone to CHARLIE
CHARLIE	Out of area: relative's house, ~40 mi west (example)	Highway west. Alt: state route	Arrive and stay. Check in when any comms work	—

ROSTER

CALL SIGN	WHO	RADIOS	LICENSE / FCC CALL	PHONE
BASE	Household A (example)	GMRS base, ham HT, go-bag HTs	GMRS WRXX000 · Ham NOCALL	555-0100
MOBILE 1	Household A, truck	2 m mobile, GMRS HT, MURS HT	GMRS WRXX000 · Ham NOCALL (2nd op)	555-0101
MOBILE 2	Household B (example)	GMRS HT, MURS HT	GMRS WRXX001	555-0102