

REPEATER COORDINATION:

It is the coordinator's job to approve or in some cases suggest repeater frequencies that will insure minimum interference between systems and make best use of the spectrum, especially when there is a shortage of frequencies. Just because a frequency is not used does not mean it will be available for a particular use at a particular location.

Request for coordination assumes that you will have your equipment on the air within 90 days. If this is not the case, be sure to advise the coordinator, otherwise the coordination will be set aside after that time if the repeater is not operational. It is your responsibility to advise the coordinator when the repeater goes on the air at its coordinated location.

Coordination is based on propagation plots derived from the power & gain data you supply on the application and information on known coordinated repeaters. These plots are run on a repeater to mobile computer model plotted out to the .5 uV signal level contour. Frequently, some weak signal overlap between systems occurs. We try to keep this to a minimum. Keep in mind that coordination cannot provide protection for repeater Dxing from base stations with good antenna systems or mobiles in high locations. Repeaters are designed as "mobile range extenders", and are coordinated as such with "primary" coverage area in mind. The presence of uncoordinated systems, local inter-mod conditions and propagation that is better or worse than predicted may require re-coordination to another frequency or antenna configuration.

When remote receivers are to be used, they must be included on the coordination documents so their impact may be considered. Any auxiliary links in the amateur bands for these remotes must be coordinated. The use of remote receivers will not increase a system's main transmitter footprint for the purpose of coordination. We cannot protect a repeater beyond its coordinated area (based on the above plots). We coordinate transmitters. Only transmitters can cause interference. Only transmitters require coordination. In the case of remote receivers, their coverage area could extend beyond the coordinated transmitter's coverage, and as such may be subject to interference from adjacent systems. Use of directional antennas, PL, or other means to protect the receiver is recommended. Use of remote receivers near the outer edges of a repeater's coverage is strongly discouraged as it invites operators outside of the normal coverage area to "Dx" the repeater, causing potential interference to systems that are located closer to them.

"Keeping the coordination data (contacts, numbers, etc.) accurate is the responsibility of the repeater owner. Coordinations need to be updated every 5 years per policy and FCC recommendation. We will attempt to send a reminder. If we find the contact info is no longer current, or update information is not received in a timely manner, the repeater will be removed from public listings.

The Coordinators are record keepers, not enforcers. Amateur Radio coordination is by "gentleman's agreement" and does not fall under the auspices of the FCC. Disputes must be settled between the repeater owners themselves. If they cannot resolve the problems, the coordinators may cancel coordination of the system or systems they feel are at fault. Frequently this will be the newest coordination.

REPEATER DE-COORDINATION

To preserve integrity in coordination and to maintain accurate records, the ARCA Coordination Committee (ARCA-CC) maintains certain rules that shall be followed by repeater owners. If these requirements are not followed, de-coordination of the frequency assignment can occur.

Each Frequency Coordinator has the right to revoke a coordinated frequency under the following circumstances. Such revocations may be appealed to the Chairman. If no resolution, the appeal may be taken to the repeater owners meeting at the next semiannual Repeaters Owners Meeting for a vote of the repeater owners:

- 1) If the FCC orders the system to permanently cease operation.
- 2) If the amateur radio license of the owner, trustee, or the club (which ever situation applies) is suspended, revoked, or expires, or if the licensee fails to maintain a current address on file with the ARCA-CC and/or the FCC.
- 3) If the existence of a working system cannot be confirmed; or, if the holder cannot comply with the request of the Frequency Coordinator to demonstrate the operation of such system within thirty days of a request to do so.
- 4) When research has been conducted (to be documented by the Frequency Coordinator) that indicates a frequency pair has not been in use for ninety days, the Frequency Coordinator will send an inquiry by certified mail, return receipt requested, to the trustee of record using the FCC database address and the last address supplied to the ARCA-CC. Should no response be received within thirty days from the date of receipt of this letter, or if the letter is returned as refused, or not delivered, the coordination of the frequency pair will be rescinded. If the trustee responds within thirty days requesting that the coordination be maintained, at the discretion of the Frequency Coordinator any further action can be stayed.
- 5) If the trustee of the system consistently violates good engineering or amateur practices by operating his/her system with excessive deviation, spurious emissions, off frequency or any other operation as to cause harmful interference to adjacent or co-channel users and refuses to cooperate with the other trustee(s) involved and/or the Frequency Coordinator.
- 6) If the repeater owner/trustee moves a repeater without prior re-coordination approval.
- 7) Failure to respond to update requests sent from time to time by coordinators.
Failure to respond satisfactorily to request = Removal of public listing.
Failure to respond to 2nd notice = 3rd notice sent via certified w/ return receipt..
Failure to respond to 3rd notice = De-coordination via certified letter w/ 30 days to reinstate.
Failure to respond to De-coordination to letter = De-coordination & drop from database.