

Giddings Times & News

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Demonstration to test emergency operations

Williamson County Amateur Radio Emergency Services, in conjunction with Williamson and Lee County offices of Emergency Communication, will conduct a demonstration of alternative communication methods.

The demonstration will be conducted at the Lee County Sheriff's Complex in Giddings on March 8-9 from 10 a.m.-4 p.m.

The joint demonstration will allow Lee County officials to evaluate the use of amateur radio to communicate with emergency services when normal communication methods are interrupted. Both voice and data communications will be demonstrated and conducted between Lee and Williamson County Emergency Operation Centers.

Lee County Emergency Management Coordinator Delynn Peschke stated, "Lee County is excited to have a joint communications exercise/demonstration with William-

son County, Williamson County ARES and Lee County ARES. This exercise/demonstration shows cooperation between all parties involved and will strengthen our response to emergencies."

Lee County Sheriff Rodney Meyer sent a letter stating, "The Lee County Sheriff's Office is excited to have the Williamson County ARES (Amateur Radio Emergency Service) and Lee County ARES coming together for a demonstration on the capabilities to deploy and establish radio communications in Lee County, and between Lee County EOC and Williamson County EOC and the State Operations Center."

The Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES) consists of Amateur Radio licensees who have voluntarily registered their qualifications and equipment for communications duty in the public service when disaster strikes.