



# CANWARN Net Controllers 2011

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# Spotters

- ◆ Certified Amateur Operators
- ◆ Registered Spotters
- ◆ Capable of 2m communication to Winnipeg

>150 Spotters in >40 communities (Southern Manitoba)

No Spotters in South-West Manitoba

Ensure that affected area has Spotters before activating net or calling District reps – if we don't have coverage in an area tell the Severe Wx Forecaster!

# Activation

Can be any of:

- ◆ Severe Weather Forecaster PASPC
- ◆ On-Call CANWARN Net Controller
- ◆ CANWARN District Representative

Seasonal Activations:

2010 **11 Nets**

2009 **7 Nets**

2008 **8 Nets** early JUN to Early AUG

2007 **15 Nets**: 2 in May, 8 in June\*, 2 in July

\* Including F-5 Tornado in Elie

2006 **18 Nets**: 1 in MAY, 6 in JUN, 6 in JUL, 5 in AUG

2005 **6 Nets**: 2 in JUN, 4 in JUL

# Activation con't

Manitoba CANWARN Program unique:

Net Controller or District rep can cause activation in addition to Severe Wx Forecaster

Only circumstance associated with ARES where "self-activation" is allowed (we don't need the served agency to make the request)

DAY Net Controller to phone Severe Wx Forecaster **daily** at 1100h to enquire about possible activations (**unlisted** 983-xxxx)

# Net Operation

- ◆ Closed, directed 2m Net
- ◆ VE4WWO is Net Control Station
- ◆ Spotters educated to give call-signs phonetically, with location initially
- ◆ NCS May or may not call for check-ins (depends on Alert condition & NCS judgment)
- ◆ ARES Net Controller on call 0930-2130h daily week before Victoria Day to week after Labor Day
- ◆ PASPC staff to contact WPGARES Duty Coordinator when no Net Controller On-Call

# Net Operation con't

Loss of communications:

- ◆ Some districts have local plan, or
- ◆ Spotters can report by phone using number circulated at Spotter Training session
- ◆ During VHF Net, Controller should monitor HF **if possible**:
  - 40 m 7.070 MHz LSB **Day**
  - 80m 3.760 MHz LSB **Eve**

# CANWARN Controllers

- ◆ On-Call Controller has numeric pager, parking pass & Net Control Manual, +/- Access Card\*
- ◆ 34 weeks on-call (17 wks DAYS, 17 wks EVE)
- ◆ Net controllers **must** be ARES members
  - Display ARES photo ID when on duty at VE4WWO
- ◆ **DON'T** turn the pagers off except to replace batteries!

\* Access Card issuing mechanism not quite ready as of 16 MAY



# Net Control Manual

- ◆ Program Overview
- ◆ Alert Conditions
- ◆ Net Scripts
- ◆ Districts
  - Representatives
  - Repeaters
- ◆ TM-261 Freq List
- ◆ Handling Distress Traffic
- ◆ IC-718 Info
- ◆ Manual Tuner SOP
- ◆ FT-1500 Info
- ◆ Link Codes
- ◆ Controller Schedules
- ◆ Interesting URLs
- ◆ Controller Roster

# VE4WWO Location

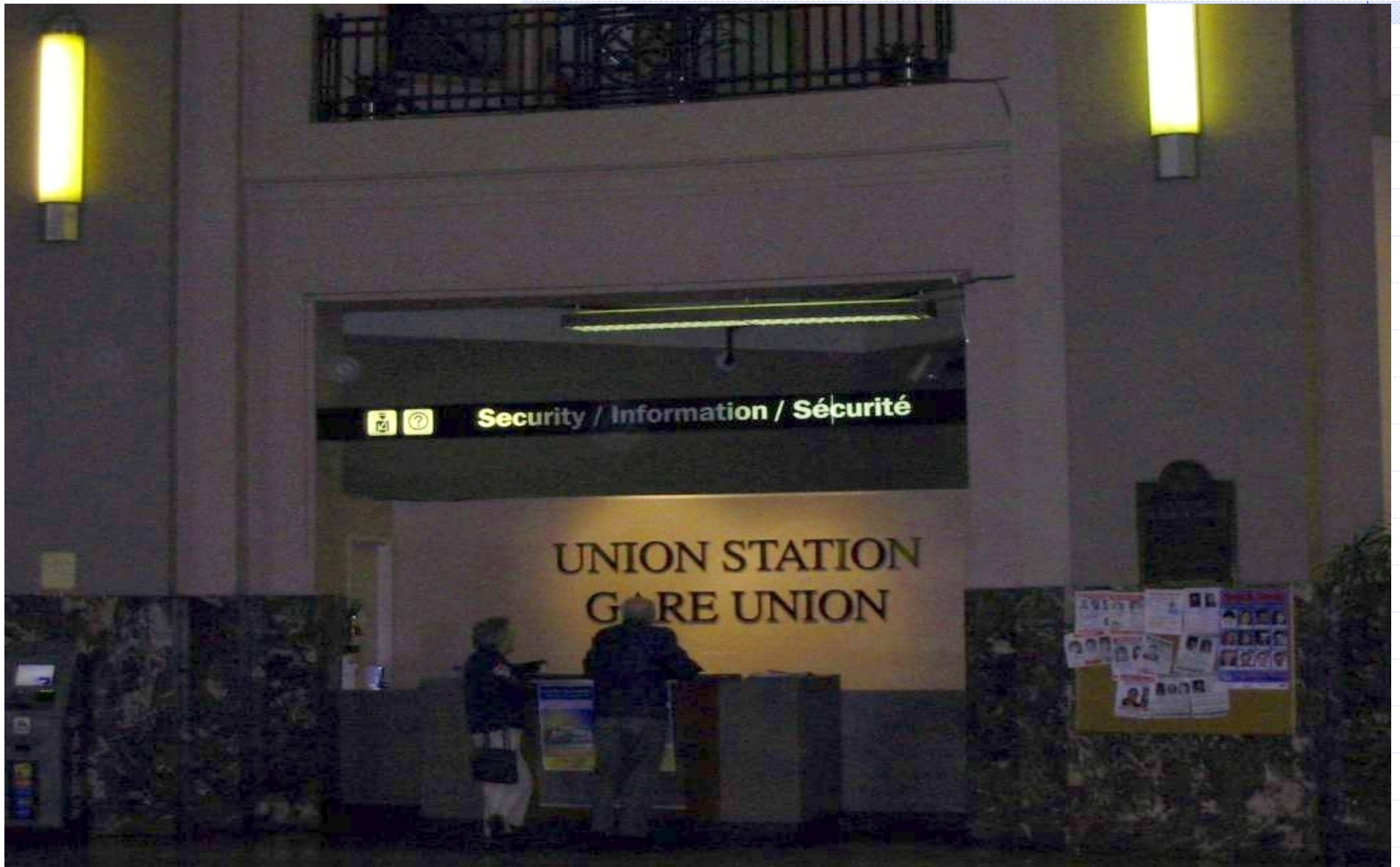
4<sup>th</sup> floor Union Station 123 Main Street



# VE4WWO Con't

Sign in and out at Security Desk when attending EVE & Week-ends (located in south-east corner of rotunda) Show location attending as **PASPC**

If no Access Card, must phone unlisted 983 number to have someone from Wx Centre come down to let you in.



# PASPC Parking

Approximately 5 parking spots in North Lot at Union Station, centre row, stalls:

**137, 138, 139, 140, 141 AND # 119**

Marked "Reserved 24 Hrs Tow Away Enforced PASPC" **DISPLAY PARKING PASS**



# VE4WWO Equipment

## VHF & HF Station:

- ◆ TM-261, DCI Filter & PS to ¼ Wave Omni
- ◆ FT-1500, DCI Filter, PS & Ant Switch to:
  - Single Bay Omni on the roof
  - 3 element beam pointing at CDN
  - Leave Antenna Switch at **GND** when closing station
- ◆ IC-718 & PS to Dipole on roof



18:58  
4-23 SUN

FF-1500





National Weather Service and ARRL Thank  
**VE4WVO**  
for participating in Skywarn  
Recognition Day  
December 7, 2002

PROPERTY OF  
**ELUXE VERSA TUNER II**  
MFJ-949E

ICOM  
**IC-7300**  
HF TRANSCEIVER  
MFJ-94900L HF Q-SWITCH

**TARRI 20-1000**  
POWER SUPPLY

**CANWARN Severe Weather Event**

**RIVERSIDE**  
The City of  
Riverside, CA  
www.riversideca.gov

**Energizer**  
AAA 8 BATTERIES  
www.energizer.com

National Weather Service and ARRL thank  
**VE4WVO**  
for participating in  
Skywarn Recognition Day  
December 4, 2004

# MFJ-948 Versa Tuner

- ◆ Belongs to Kent VE4KEH, **not** Environment Canada
- ◆ SOP in Controller Manual
  - Select appropriate memory
  - Decrease RF power to 20 Watts
  - Use AM mode to send a carrier
  - Follow SOP
- ◆ If unfamiliar get a tutorial **before** using

# Station Resources

User Manuals for all radios (TM-261A, FT-1500, IC-718)

Station Logbook (Black colored bound book)

Severe Weather Event Log binder

Blue Duotang with list of Spotter by district with phone numbers (to be updated MAY 2011)

Green Duotang with WWO Updates

Sherlock Streetguide

Manitoba Highway Map

VE4 Blue Book

Net Controller Manual

# Station Log

- Please log station open & close date/time
- Reason for activation (e.g Tornado Warning for Wpg) & Repeaters Utilized
- Operators on/off duty
- Significant Wx reports received
- Equipment problems, changes, repairs, testing, etc
- Station Visits (practice, tests, demo, etc)



# Phone Calls from within PASPC

For long distance calls:

Dial 1-204-xxx-xxxx (**don't** dial "9" first)

For local calls:

Dial "9" first, eg 9-xxx-xxxx

Select "Media" line or a misc line **NOT**  
"Severe WX" Line or "Reporting" Line

# Once Activated

- ◆ Attend PASPC in timely fashion
  - If possible notify appropriate district rep **early**
- ◆ Park in correct location if using North Lot
  - Display parking pass
- ◆ Sign-in if Eve or Week-end
- ◆ Access card to get thru main floor door & main door on 4<sup>th</sup> floor, otherwise will have to phone Wx Centre for access
  - Numeric code door to access Wx Centre
- ◆ Get current Watch or Warning bulletin from Forecaster or Summer student

# Importance of Reviewing Written Watch/Warning

## Tornado Watches

### 1. Funnel Cloud Watch

- ◆ Funnel clouds or weak tornados

### 2. Landspout Watch

- From weak thunderstorms, can cause up to F1 damage

### 3. Supercell Tornado Watch

- "Elie Tornado"



# Once Activated con't

- ◆ Notify appropriate District Rep if you haven't already done so
- ◆ Turn on the radios, select appropriate freqs, monitor briefly & start the CANWARN Net using appropriate Net Script (log station opening & reason)
- ◆ Depending on what's happening you might need to be listening to **both** VHF radios
- ◆ If too much going on get help:
  - Call another Net Controller
  - Poll on WPG for an available Net Controller or ARES member
  - Page WPGARES Duty Coordinator

# Pinawa District

- ◆ Pinawa Coordinator previously requested notice when wx is at least 30-40 miles out so that mobile Spotters can safely get onto the air and into place

# If Advice Required while at PASPC

◆ **Don't** ask for advice on the air!

Page WPGARES Duty Coordinator

Or try phoning Kent VE4KEH or Glen VE4GWN

**Don't** reprogram any radios without speaking with Duty Coordinator or Kent VE4KEH. Notify MBQ via e-mail if any radios reprogrammed.

# Need Practice?

- ◆ On-Call Controllers can attend WWO **anytime** for proficiency practice
- ◆ On-call Controllers encouraged to attend WWO at least once/week so Wx Centre staff get to know them
  - Consider operating WWO during MMWX Net or MEPN
- ◆ Not on call & want access:
  - Try to arrange thru on-call Controller
    - ◆ Or phone James Cummine
    - ◆ Or phone Natalie Hasell

# Alert Conditions

- ◆ Green
- ◆ Yellow
- ◆ Red

Specific "script" for each alert condition  
plus a "Change in Conditions" script

# Green Alert

## Severe Weather Watch

- ◆ Take Spotter check-ins
- ◆ Allow non-net traffic during quiet periods

# Yellow Alert

Severe Weather Warning or Tornado Watch

**No check-ins**, only stations with reports of:

- ◆ Hail
- ◆ Damaging Winds
- ◆ Wall Clouds
- ◆ Funnel Clouds
- ◆ Tornadoes
- ◆ Unusual Wx Events
  - Strange cloud formations
  - Roll clouds

# Red Alert

Tornado Warning

**No check-ins**, only reports of:

- ◆ Wall Clouds
- ◆ Funnel Clouds
- ◆ Tornadoes

Local ARES group should be on alert

(Local EC/AEC decision, **NOT** CANWARN Net Controller decision)



# Summer Reports

Summer reports should focus on:

- ◆ **Any** tornadic event or funnel cloud
- ◆ Rotating wall cloud
- ◆ Shelf Cloud
- ◆ **Any** Hail
- ◆ Winds > 90 Km/h
- ◆ Rain > 50mm/h or > 75 mm 2-3 hrs
  - Visibility reduced to less than ½ Km

Spotters report by telephone if no Net in progress

# Summer Reports con't

PASPC **Severe Wx Event Log** used to record all incoming reports (CANWARN, Media, Wx Watchers, etc)

Record appropriate info & pass completed report to Severe Wx Forecaster (or summer student)

If completed report is returned to WWO desk file in back of Severe Weather Event Log binder

# SEVERE WEATHER EVENT LOG - SUMMER



ALBERTA	SASKATCHEWAN	MANITOBA
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DATE: \_\_\_\_\_ TIME: \_\_\_\_\_ (MDT, CST, CDT)

NAME OF CALLER: \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE NUMBER: \_\_\_\_\_

WATCHER | MEDIA | CANWARN | OTHER

LOCATION OF EVENT: \_\_\_\_\_

TIME OF EVENT: \_\_\_\_\_

**INFORMATION**

TORNADO/FUNNEL CLOUD/SPINNING CLOUDS (CIRCLE)

FUNNEL TOUCHING GROUND?  YES  NO

DIRECTION/SPEED OF MOTION? \_\_\_\_\_

SIZE/SHAPE? \_\_\_\_\_ DURATION? \_\_\_\_\_

REMARKS/DAMAGE? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**TORNADO**

HAIL SIZE? (DIAMETER) \_\_\_\_\_ ESTIMATED/MEASURED?

(PEA, MARBLE, GRAPE, WALNUT, GOLFBALL, ETC.)

AMOUNT? \_\_\_\_\_ DURATION? \_\_\_\_\_

REMARKS? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**HAIL**

WIND SPEED? \_\_\_\_\_ ESTIMATED/MEASURED?

DIRECTION? \_\_\_\_\_ DURATION? \_\_\_\_\_

REMARKS/DAMAGE? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**WIND**

RAIN AMOUNT? \_\_\_\_\_ ESTIMATED/MEASURED?

DURATION? \_\_\_\_\_

REMARKS/FLOODING? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**RAIN**

REPORTED TO? \_\_\_\_\_

OVER FOR MORE QUESTIONS, IF NECESSARY

# End of Net

- ◆ Stand-down the Net before shutting station down
  - If going thru into EVE ensure that EVE Controller is paged **well before** 1730h so they will know to attend PASPC (and maybe just stay downtown instead of going home to the “burbs” just to come back)
- ◆ Log time station closed
- ◆ Sign-out at Security Desk if you signed in

# District Representatives

## ◆ BRANDON

Dan Connors, Charlie Bailey

## ◆ DAUPHIN

Tony Duchscher, Ray Pike, Jack Adams

## ◆ INTERLAKE

Jim McKinley, Jim Townsend

## ◆ SELKIRK

Ron Williscroft, Brad Bowman

## ◆ PORTAGE

Bill Simm, Glen Marchand

## ◆ NORTH EASTMAN

Dave Place, Ed Evanko

## ◆ PINAWA

Garry Stokes, Grant Delaney

## ◆ SOUTH-CENTRAL

Gord Snarr, Jake Dyck, Orlando Penner

## ◆ WINNIPEG

Jeff Dovyak, Glen Napady,  
Norman Coull

# District Repeaters

## ◆ BRANDON

VE4MAN-VE4TED link

**currently down!**

## ◆ DAUPHIN

IRLP VE4SRR or VE4SIX

## ◆ INTERLAKE

VE4GIM, VE4SLK

## ◆ SELKIRK

VE4MBR, VE4INT

## ◆ PORTAGE la PRAIRIE

VE4MAN-VE4PTG link

Alt VE4RAG

## ◆ NORTH EASTMAN

VE4SLK, VE4INT

## ◆ PINAWA

VE4MIL or IRLP to VE4PIN

## ◆ SOUTH-CENTRAL

VE4CDN,

VE4MAN-VE4CDN link

## WINNIPEG

VE4WPG, VE4ARC

# "Out of Season" & Unusual Conditions

PASPC WPM & Wx Centre shift staff have contact info for:

- ◆ WPGARES Duty Coordinator
- ◆ CANWARN Spotters by region/district

WPM has contact info for:

- ◆ MMWX Net Manager & MEPN Manager

# Unable to Cover a Day ?

- ◆ Controllers can trade weeks and days if mutually convenient, notify MBQ for trades > 1 day
- ◆ Several Controllers **might** be able to provide short-notice 1 or 2 day relief:
  - Bob VE4MAQ
  - John VE4JNF
  - Dick VE4HK
  - Ed VE4EIH
  - Bob VE4RCJ



# Summary

VHF Operation with HF back-up.

3 Activation scenarios.

On-call Net Controller for VE4WWO

avail 12 h daily Victoria Day to Labor Day.

3 Alert Conditions, don't always ask for check-ins.

Spotters report by telephone if no Net

Net Controllers should feel free to attend WWO for proficiency practice.

# "Do"

- ◆ Phone Wx Centre daily at 1100h if on-call  
DAYs 983-xxxx (unlisted, see Wx Centre #  
on roster, page 20 in Net Controller Manual)
- ◆ Park in appropriate spot with pass displayed
- ◆ Always display ARES photo-ID card
- ◆ Record station activities in Station Log
- ◆ Try to attend WWO at least 1/wk if on-call
- ◆ Record Spotter Reports on PASPC Severe  
Weather Log Sheet & pass on to Forecasters
- ◆ Notify EVE Controller if DAY Net will be going  
past 1700h

# "Don't"

- ◆ Turn pagers off during the season
- ◆ Use manual tuner if uncertain
- ◆ Ask for advice on the air
  - But ask for discrete advice if you need to
  - But do get help if you need it
- ◆ Take check-ins during Alert Yellow or Red
  - Do take specific reports accordingly
- ◆ Reprogram radios with consultation & notification

# On-Line Resources

Environment Canada's Green Lane  
[www.weatheroffice.ec.gc.ca](http://www.weatheroffice.ec.gc.ca)

"Media" Wx Site – see URL list in Manual, all Controllers  
share username & password

Significant Wx Discussion "FOCN45"  
<http://kamala.cod.edu/Canada/latest.focn45.CWWG.html>

Winnipeg ARES      [www.winnipegares.ca](http://www.winnipegares.ca)