

**ARRL WEST CENTRAL FLORIDA SECTION  
COUNTY PARKS ON THE AIR  
EVENT RULES**



**INTRODUCTION AND PURPOSE:**

County Parks On The Air (CPOTA) is intended to encourage on-the-air activity by the Radio Amateur operators in the West Central Section of the ARRL. It is not a contest in the formal sense, although each participant will be recognized for the number of parks that are contacted during the event. Clubs and individuals are encouraged to activate parks in their areas. Multiple stations or single stations can be activated at a given park. The WCF Section website will have a page where activators can post their schedule of operations. The notice should include date, times of operating, and expected frequencies and modes. Section nets can also be used to announce activations. Park activators are encouraged to use their activities as an opportunity to promote Amateur Radio.

Please treat people with respect and courtesy. Make certain that all equipment including antennas is safely set up. If at all possible obtain permission from proper authorities for operating at a park. If asked by authorities to cease operations be courteous in responses.

**PARKS:**

Parks must be included in the official list that is posted on the WCF Section website CPOTA web page. Parks may be added or deleted from the list based on the judgment of the County Parks On The Air Committee (CPOTA Committee).

A park will be marked as activated when it has been activated by an individual or group and a minimum of five (5) contacts or one (1) contact if it is a satellite contact has been made. The five (5) contacts must be made in one time of activation. For example, you cannot make three (3) contacts on one day and return to that park the next day and make two (2) contacts and count that park as officially activated.

**PLEASE NOTE:** All equipment, including the antenna, must be within park boundaries unless this is physically impossible. If you encounter a situation where this cannot be done, contact the CPOTA Rules Committee before you try to activate that park. If necessary, exceptions to this rule can be granted so that the park in question can be activated.

The activated parks list will be the official list for determining any recognition of "Honor Roll" status if the CPOTA Committee decides to recognize that status.

**CPOTA WEB PAGE:**

<http://arrlwcf.org/wcf-special-events/county-parks-on-the-air/>.

**DURATION:**

The event will run from March 1, 2019 0000 EST through December 31, 2019 2359 EDT.

**ELIGIBILITY:**

Although aimed particularly at Radio Amateurs in the ARRL West Central Florida Section, the event is open for all licensed Radio Amateurs. You must comply with FCC regulations governing your class of license.

**EXCHANGE:**

In order to qualify as a legitimate contact, the following information must be exchanged and recorded in your event log.

<b>Exchange Information:</b>	<b>Additional Log Entry Information:</b>
Call Signs of Both Stations.	Date, Time, Frequency, and Mode.
Park designators (Three Letters).	Indication if contact was by satellite.
Standard Signal Report: RS, RST, or appropriate report for digital modes.	

### **DESIGNATORS:**

Each county park that is on the list has a three letter designator that has been assigned by the CPOTA Committee. The park designators are included in the county parks lists for each county that is on the CPOTA web page.

### **LOGS:**

Logs must be submitted by all stations participating in the event including stations that activate a park. An official log form will be available on the WCF County Parks On The Air web page. Logs must be mailed to Darrell Davis KT4WX, 6350 Mills Road, Fort Meade, FL 33841, no later than January 31, 2020.

### **BANDS AND MODES:**

All bands and modes are allowed for contacts with the exception of repeaters. No repeater contacts are allowed. This restriction does not include satellite contacts which are permitted. Bands and modes used must be in keeping with the allowed bands and modes for the license held by the operators for a contact.

### **POINTS:**

**Chasers:** A point will be awarded for one contact with a given park. No duplicate contacts will be recognized. For example, if you contact a station at Charlie Brown Park in Sebring on 75 meter LSB that is the only point that will be awarded for that park regardless of how many other contacts you may make with a station there. Certificates will not be issued for different modes and bands. Your certificate will only indicate the number of parks that you contacted regardless of frequency and/or mode.

The only exception to awarding one point for each park contacted will be for satellite contacts. Each satellite contact will count for three (3) points. The rule about counting only one contact per park will still apply for satellite contacts.

**Activators:** Five (5) points will be awarded for each park you activate. These points are only awarded the first time you activate a particular park. Repeat activations will not receive these points. You will receive one (1) point for each contact you make as an activator; satellite contacts will receive three (3) points per contact.

### **CERTIFICATES:**

One and only one certificate will be awarded to each station that participates in the event. The only exception to this will be for stations that participate both as park activators and in contacting parks that are on the air. Thus if you are activating parks, that will be recognized by a special Activator certificate and you can also receive a certificate for parks that you contact during the event.

In the event that a decision by the CPOTA Committee is made to recognize certain levels of achievement (say special recognition for contacting 75% or more of the parks that were activated) that will be recognized on the one certificate that is issued to the involved station. No separate certificates for such recognitions will be issued. For example, if your contacts include satellite contacts that will be noted on your certificate.

**WAIVER OF LIABILITY:**

Participants in the CPOTA do so at their own risk. All participants are on notice that some risk is involved with any portable Amateur Radio operation in the wilderness. Participants activating any county park agree to take all safety precautions, including, but not limited to, avoiding power lines, following all rules and regulations of the park and park staff; choosing an operating site wisely; avoiding interactions with wildlife; disturbing other guests of the parks; and by maintaining a general awareness of their personal condition when undertaking portable amateur radio operation from a park.

**WAIVER OF LIABILITY (Continued):**

ARRL and the counties assume no liability for any Amateur Radio operator participating in CPOTA and participants agree to assume all risk and liability for damage to personal property and injury to persons that may result from such operation, and to hold counties and ARRL harmless therefrom.

**RULES CHANGES:**

The CPOTA Committee reserves the right to modify these rules as it deems necessary during the event. Any changes **MUST** be immediately announced on the CPOTA web page. Changes may not be allowed to nullify points that stations have earned prior to the enactment of these changes. For example, if a given park is deleted from the official list during the event no points will be removed from those who have made a valid contact with that park.

**COUNTY PARKS ON THE AIR COMMITTEE:**

Chairman:

Randy Payne K4EZM – Assistant Section Manager

Email: k4ezm@arrl.net

Committee Members:

Darrell Davis KT4WX – Section Manager

Email: kt4wx@arrl.net

Mike Douglas W4MDD – Affiliated Club Coordinator

Email: w4mdd@arrl.net