

The Red River Valley Amateur Radio Club (RRVARC), celebrating 50 years in service (1973-2023), is your best provider of updates during disasters, natural or otherwise. Due to the curvature of the Earth, Dallas/Ft. Worth weather radar is only able to show weather at 14,850 ft above Paris. Ham radio operators, specially trained as weather observers and functioning as storm spotters, call in observations to our volunteers manning positions in a secure location at the Paris Police Department Emergency Operations Center (EOC). This service provides your best real time updates.



## WHEN SEVERE WEATHER THREATENS

RED RIVER VALLEY  
AMATEUR RADIO  
CLUB (RRVARC)  
WB5RDD  
[WWW.WB5RDD.ORG](http://WWW.WB5RDD.ORG)

Get real time storm spotter updates by monitoring frequency 146.76 MHz on a ham radio, scanner, via livestream from our website weather page or the Broadcastify app on your smartphone.

## Who we are:

We are **The Red River Valley Amateur Radio Club**, which consists of specially trained and federally licensed Amateur Radio Operators (also known as Ham Radio Operators). We are currently celebrating our 50th year of continuous operations in the Paris-Lamar County and adjacent areas. The guiding principles and functionality of the club are essentially public and civic service oriented.

## Who we are not:

We are not First Responders. Nor should we be. Our specialty is real-time communications while storm spotting and tracking. The fundamental purpose of our Weather Net operation is to provide the **National Weather Service (NWS)** and local authorities with instantaneous and accurate information about developing situations and storm tracking. This requires maximum flexibility and mobility.

## What we do and how we do it:

Individual Ham Operators provide and maintain their own individual gear, but the functional hub of the system is a "repeater" co-located on a **Lamar County Electric Co-op** tower south of Paris at Atlas, Texas. This location provides a maximum coverage footprint in the Lamar County area and up into Oklahoma. The repeater is necessary due to the short-range nature of both handheld and mobile unit radios.

Our Weather Net repeater traffic is coordinated from and reported to the **Paris Police Department Emergency Operations Center (EOC)**. The EOC is connected to our **National Weather Service (NWS)** partner in Fort Worth.

Sadly, due to the curvature of the Earth, existing NWS radar facilities cannot see below 14,850 ft above Paris and the Lamar County area, therefore,



they depend greatly on direct observation from our mobile weather spotter/observers.

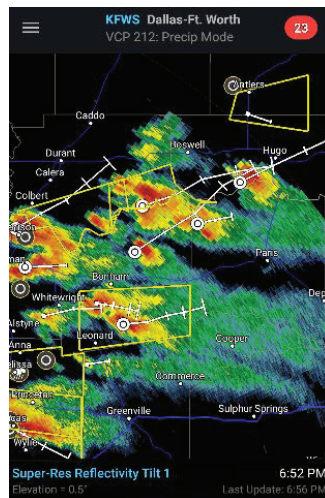
We also provide communications support for planned special events such as the annual **Tour de Paris**.



What we do and provide is by nature and function publicly available information. Residents and businesses can - and are encouraged to - listen in on our operations for instant and real time disaster response information. There are several ways to do this. A VHF/UHF Ham Radio or scanner, of course is ideal, but we also offer a live-stream Internet simulcast via a link to Broadcastify.com from the weather page on our website ([WWW.W5BRDD.ORG](http://WWW.W5BRDD.ORG)) or the Broadcastify smartphone app.

## The Challenges:

To be direct, and in the interest of clarity and simplicity, Ham repeater gear and insurance are not cheap. Especially repeaters and their installations. Radios, duplexers, feed lines, high-mounted commercial grade antennas and supporting battery backups and generator installations haven't gotten any cheaper in the last 50 years. Individual operators already carry the sole burden of their own gear and training. By law, amateur radio operators are individually strictly forbidden from requesting or receiving any compensation or pecuniary interests for their services. However, the skyrocketing costs of club gear and insurance etc. has exceeded the ability of club fundraisers and individual member donations to carry the cost. So, if we are going to continue carrying on these civic duties and functions, we are going to need some consistent and reliable help.



That is the reason we are here, and you are reading this. Simply put, we are seeking your support for our club's continued community efforts. This visit is all about an outreach program to develop business support for our efforts via a monthly or annual sponsorship.

We can't provide any direct and individual remuneration for that sponsorship, but what we can do is publish an acknowledgement of your generosity and support on the club website. Your company logo, address, contact information and a hyperlink to your website will be included on the sponsor's page.

## Business Sponsorship Levels

During an in-person visit **RRVARC** personnel will be able to show you examples of what various levels of giving will secure for you on the website. Our sponsorship levels are payable on either a monthly or annual basis:

**Platinum = \$250 per month**  
**Gold = \$100 per month**  
**Silver = \$50 per month**  
**Bronze = \$25 per month**

Additionally, **RRVARC** conducts training and licensure testing for groups of ten or more. For more information and details, please contact us.



**Red River Valley Amateur Radio Club  
(RRVARC) WBSRDD**  
2448 Lamar Avenue #726  
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[www.wb5rdd.org/sponsors](http://www.wb5rdd.org/sponsors)

*RRVARC is a registered IRS 501(c)3  
non-profit charitable entity*