

CITY OF RENTON FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

June 13, 2018



City of Renton Contacts

[Mindi Mattson](#), Emergency Management Coordinator, 425-430-7727

[Preeti Shridhar](#), Deputy Public Affairs Administrator, 425-430-6569

Amateur Radio Operators Test Emergency Communications in 24-Hour Event

Public is invited to watch the exercise and tour the mobile communications response unit

Renton, WA – [Renton Emergency Communication Service](#) (RECS), a group of amateur (ham) radio operators, will join thousands of other operators around the country in a test of their emergency communication capabilities in a 24-hour field day event.

The exercise will begin on Saturday, June 22 at 11:00 a.m. and end on Sunday, June 23 at 11:00 a.m.

RECS will set up at Thomas Teasdale Park, 601 South 23rd Street in Renton. The event is free and open to the public on Saturday, June 22 from 11:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. Tours of the mobile communications response unit vehicle, which provides a mobile communications hotspot, will be available, along with ham radio activities and a chance to talk live on the air.

This event is part of the annual [American Radio Relay League \(ARRL\) Field Day Test](#). During the test, thousands of ham radio operators use emergency or alternate power sources under simulated emergency conditions. More than 35,000 amateur radio operators across the country participated in last year's event.

Ham radio operators have provided critical communications in many recent emergencies. During a local disaster, normal communication channels may become inoperable and Renton's amateur radio operators have proven to be a reliable low-tech source of communication available for the city.

For more information on how you can become an amateur radio operator or join RECS, visit their [website](#) or contact Renton's Office of Emergency Management at 425-430-7727.

About the City of Renton

The City of Renton, Washington, with a population of 104,100 (2018), is located on the southeast shore of Lake Washington, just south of Seattle. Renton's strong economic base, diverse marketplace and favorable business climate have attracted the attention of nationally recognized companies that are providing employees and their families an outstanding quality of life. Renton is the home of Boeing, PACCAR, IKEA, the Seattle Seahawks, and the eternal resting place of Jimi Hendrix. More information can be found on our [website](#), [news releases](#), or [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), and [Nextdoor](#) pages.

###