

Wilmington VHF Association, Inc.

Repeater Etiquette Guidelines

Please observe the following repeater etiquette guidelines when using the Wilmington VHF Association's amateur radio repeaters:

- **Emergency and public service communications shall have priority over all other communications.** Most of the club's repeaters are designated for certain emergency uses, including SKYWARN, evacuation shelters, American Red Cross, and the CARES hospital system, to name a few.
- **Welcome and include newcomers and visitors.** Encourage newcomers to Amateur Radio and visiting ham operators to participate in your QSO. Many new hams make their first amateur radio contact on the WVHFA's flagship N4ILM, 146.820, wide coverage repeater. Newcomers and visitors are invited to attend WVHFA functions, including club meetings.
- **Give priority to portable and mobile stations.** Often, low-power stations need to use WVHFA's wide area coverage repeaters to initiate contact.
- **Avoid lengthy conversations.** Especially on the WVHFA's wide area repeaters, please be mindful that other hams may want to also use the repeaters. If you are in range, use one of the other WVHFA repeaters having less coverage, such as the N4ILM, 146.730, machine.
- **Practice good repeater etiquette.** Basic repeater etiquette includes standing by for the courtesy tone so breaking stations may be heard and the repeater time out timer can reset. Also, keep transmissions brief when participating in a round table discussion and listen so you can learn and follow the established round table sequence.
- **FCC Rules / Good Conduct.** Repeater users are expected to know and conduct themselves according to all applicable FCC rules and established principles of good Amateur Radio practice. Unlawful, discourteous, or other behavior that does not reflect well on the WVHFA or Amateur Radio in general will not be tolerated.
- **Public Service Events.** Requests to use WVHFA repeaters for public service events should be submitted in advance to the WVHFA at: <http://n4ilm.org/site/contact>
- **Share the support for the repeaters that you regularly use.** The Wilmington VHF Association strives to maintain its system of repeaters in top notch working order. The club upgrades and improves its equipment as financial resources allow. While the Wilmington VHF Repeaters are open repeaters and available for general amateur radio use, please support the repeaters that you use through maintaining a membership in the club or through a donation. The club's income is almost exclusively spent on repeater repair and improvement. As a benefit of club membership, club members in good standing have priority over non members for club repeater use.