

N4NRV Fox Hunt (Transmitter Hunt)

Saturday October 7th 9:00am to 11:00am – Back shelter of Randolph Park, Dublin, VA
Foxes on 146.580 MHz, 446.000 MHz, 147.455 MHz

1 PURPOSE

To employ radio direction finding techniques to find a given radio transmission within a designated search area. This serves as practice to emulate real world situations where discovery of the location of a transmission would be useful. Such purposes include emergency rescue transponders, and non-authorized transmissions interfering with other communication. This will be a pedestrian transmitter hunt, requiring some walking over uneven terrain.

This event will allow for the coordination and participation of area clubs or groups that wish to compete. The first team to send text messages containing all of the foxes to the coordinator will be considered the winner.

2 PARTICIPANTS

Although sponsored by the N4NRV Amateur Radio Club, this event is open to anyone wishing to participate. Groups of individuals are encouraged to provide learning opportunities and sharing of resources.

3 EQUIPMENT NEEDED

The equipment below is suggested per team. Please bring any equipment you feel would be useful for your team.

- Mobile or handheld receiver allowing the reception of frequencies in the 144.0 MHz to 148.0 MHz range (2-meter band)

AND/OR

Mobile or handheld receiver allowing the reception of frequencies in the 430.0 MHz to 440.0 MHz range (70-centimeter band)

Suggest:

- Directional antenna that works with the radio for the 2-meter band
- Compass
- Pencil/Eraser for marking maps
- Smart phone application such as SigTrax (Android) or Foxhunt Pro (iPhone)

Check website for more information - <https://www.n4nrv.org/fox-transmitter-hunting/>

4 LOCATION

Event will start at the back picnic shelter area. The search area for this event will be confined to the Randolph Park limits.

5 GENERAL RULES

All rules subject to change due to conditions as seen necessary by the N4NRV Amateur Radio Club

5.1 ALL

All Fox Hunting individuals/teams will abide by all appropriate rules of the road and be safe in all aspects of the hunt. Please be respectful to avoid private property, and keep roadways clear. Penalties for improper behavior are at the discretion of the Fox Coordinator. Conclusion of the event, or any announcements during the event shall be communicated via the N4NRV repeaters. The event will stop at 11:00am, and participants are encouraged to meet at the place of origin to discuss the lessons learned and experience.

5.2 FOX/FOX COORDINATOR OPERATION

- The Fox Coordinator MUST announce any changes from these rules, at the start time
- The Fox will be stationary and hidden within the confines of the Christiansburg corporate limits, and in publicly accessible areas out of doors
- The Fox will be clearly marked and identify its purpose to bystanders
- The Fox will operate on frequency 146.580 MHz and 446.000 MHz (may be changed due to conditions/use of frequency)
- The Fox will transmitter shall cycle with a minimum of 30 seconds transmission every 2 minutes
- Transmission will consist of the transmitter ID and purpose
- Typical Fox transmits at or below 5 watts
- Most hounds MUST be able to hear the Fox transmitter from the starting point
- The Fox Coordinator will notify the local Police Department to inform them of the club Fox hunt activities to overt any 'suspicious persons' calls

5.3 HOUND OPERATION

- The hound will not transmit on the same frequency as the Fox
- The hound team should monitor the N4NRV repeaters for announcements or instruction
- When you find the fox, take a picture, and text to the event coordinator. Do not move the Fox.
- If you decide to leave the event, please text that you are leaving to the event coordinator so we know when everyone is done, and we can collect the foxes

6 DEFINITIONS

Event Coordinator – Cam Coble, W4XXV – call/text - 540-440-1226

Fox - transmitter the hounds try to physically find

Fox Coordinator – person in charge of deploying and monitoring the Fox

Hound or Hunter - station trying to find the Fox

Have fun! 73