

Post Office Box 3103 Newport, RI 02840 www.w1sye.org

Ms. Elizabeth McDonald Senior Director Emergency Services, American Red Cross of RI 105 Gano Street Providence, RI 02906 June 15, 2016

## Dear Director McDonald:

I am writing to cordially invite you to meet with Amateur Radio operators of Rhode Island and members of our club at the Glen Park Pavilion in Portsmouth on June 25 between 4 and 6 PM.

This is "Field Day" for Amateur Radio operators, often called "hams". Throughout the country, tens of thousands of ham radio operators will be setting up thousands of radio stations in unusual locations and exchange messages with others as a demonstration of their emergency communications capabilities.

In the past year alone, ham radio's people have made headlines with their work during the severe floods in Texas, and have played key roles in exercises in the Pacific Northwest and the Caribbean. Hams provide emergency communications for many government and public service organizations during disasters. In addition, they provide supplemental communications when normal systems are rendered inoperable or overloaded, which is why our motto is "When All Else Fails, Ham Radio Works".

Should you be able, we would be delighted for you to join us at our picnic which begins at 6 PM. Chicken, hot dogs, and hamburgers will be served (please let us know how many will join us for dinner). This event should be fun and provides validation to the hundreds of Amateur Radio volunteers who have spent thousands of hours providing emergency communications, public service work and other benefits throughout our community and region. If you need more information or would like to confirm your visit please contact me at the phone number below.

Sincerely,

Robert M Beatty (401) 269-9086

WB4SON@gmail.com

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