

The background of the slide is a photograph of a tall, lattice-structured antenna tower in a park-like setting. Several people are visible around the base of the tower, some appearing to be working on it. The scene is surrounded by lush green trees under a clear blue sky.

ARRL Field Day June 27-28 2026

(Always the 4th weekend in June)

Rick Fletcher, W7YP

June 16, 2026

Flathead Valley Amateur Radio Club

Purpose of Field Day

- FD is part:
 - Emergency Comm Exercise
 - Objective: to contact as many stations as possible on 160/80/40/20/15/10m HF bands; 50 MHz and up
 - IARU Region 2
 - DX may be worked for credit, but they cannot submit entries
 - Social Gathering
 - Food!
 - Open house for ham radio
 - Whatever else the club wants to make of it
- All fun!



Field Day Rules

- Starts at 1800 UTC Saturday (1200 MDT)
- Ends at 2059 UTC Sunday (1459 MDT)
- Stations which do not begin setting up until 1800 UTC on Saturday may operate the full 27-hour period
 - All others must shutdown after 24 hours in operation
 - No class A or B station may begin setting up before 0000 UTC Friday
 - Cumulative setup time cannot exceed 24 hours
- This is not an official contest
 - No logs are required
 - No certificates are awarded
 - Full results appear in December QST
- All modes allowed
- Stations can be worked once per band per mode

Field Day Rules (cont.)

- Class A Stations (club or non-club portable)
 - Group of 3 or more persons set up specifically for Field Day
 - Not a regular station location
 - All equipment must lie within a circle whose radius does not exceed 1000 feet
 - Power must be from other than commercial power mains
 - **Subcategory of “A-Commercial”, if one or more than one contact will use main power**
 - **Listed separately as Class A-Commercial in submitted logs**
 - **Still reported as Class A during a contact**
- Class A Battery (club or non-club portable)
 - In addition to the above requirements:
 - TX power is limited to 5 watts
 - Power source cannot be commercial mains, nor motor-driven generator
 - Battery
 - Solar
 - Wind/water turbine
- Class B - no more than 2 person portable
- Class C – Mobile, capable of operation while in motion

Field Day Rules (cont.)

- Class D - Home Stations
 - Operating from a permanent location using commercial power
- Class E - Home stations using emergency power
- Class F – Emergency Operations Center (EOC)
 - EOC facility must be established by:
 - A federal, state, county, city or other civil government agency or administrative entity; or,
 - An international service agency (e.g., American Red Cross, Salvation Army)
 - Activated by a club or non-club group of persons
- Calling: “CQ Field Day K7LYY”
- ON-AIR EXCHANGE - number of stations; operating class; ARRL/RAC section (we'll run 2 stations):
 - On CW/digital: “2A MT”
 - On phone: “2A Montana”
 - DX stations: “2A DX”

Get On The Air (GOTA) Station

- Only Class A or F and only one station
- Additional station which does not change the base entry or count towards the number of transmitters for classification
 - Allows visitors to experience amateur radio as an operator
- Must use a different callsign from the primary Field Day station
- A control operator must be present for non-licensed operators
- Log must be submitted with the entry summary sheet
 - QSOs count for primary station's QSO credit
- Maximum power is 100W
- Bonus points
 - 100 points if a designated GOTA Coach supervises
 - Every QSO earns 5 bonus points
- With only 2 antennas, we can't support a GOTA station

Other Bonuses

- 100% Emergency Power: 100 pts per transmitter (max 2000 pts)
- Media publicity: 100 pts
- Public location with sign: 100 pts
- Public information table: 100 pts
- Social media promotion: 100 pts
- Satellite QSO: 100 pts for first successful satellite QSO
- W1AW Bulletin: 100 pts for copying the special FD bulletin
- Solar/Wind/Water power: 100 pts
- Educational Activity (e.g., school demo): 100 pts
- Youth participation: 20 pts per participant age 18 or younger who makes at least 1 QSO (max 100 pts)
- Web/App submission: 50 pts
- And a few more lesser known...

2026 W1AW Field Day Bulletin Schedule

Day	Mode	Pacific	Mountain	Central	Eastern	UTC
FRIDAY	CW	5:00 PM	6:00 PM	7:00 PM	8:00 PM	0000 (Sat)
	Digital	6:00 PM	7:00 PM	8:00 PM	9:00 PM	0100
	Phone	6:45 PM	7:45 PM	8:45 PM	9:45 PM	0145
	CW	8:00 PM	9:00 PM	10:00 PM	11:00 PM	0300
SATURDAY	CW	7:00 AM	8:00 AM	9:00 AM	10:00 AM	1400
	Phone	8:00 AM	9:00 AM	10:00 AM	11:00 AM	1500
	CW	5:00 PM	6:00 PM	7:00 PM	8:00 PM	0000 (Sun)
	Digital	6:00 PM	7:00 PM	8:00 PM	9:00 PM	0100
	Phone	6:45 PM	7:45 PM	8:45 PM	9:45 PM	0145
SUNDAY	CW	7:00 AM	8:00 AM	9:00 AM	10:00 AM	1400
	Phone	8:00 AM	9:00 AM	10:00 AM	11:00 AM	1500
	Digital	9:00 AM	10:00 AM	11:00 AM	12:00 PM	1600

K6KPH Field Day Bulletin Schedule

SATURDAY	CW	7:30 AM	8:30 AM	9:30 AM	10:30 AM	1430
	CW	5:30 PM	6:30 PM	7:30 PM	8:30 PM	0030 (Sun)
	Digital	6:30 PM	7:30 PM	8:30 PM	9:30 PM	0130
SUNDAY	CW	7:30 AM	8:30 AM	9:30 AM	10:30 AM	1430
	Digital	9:30 AM	10:30 AM	11:30 AM	12:30 PM	1630

W1AW will operate on the regularly published frequencies.

CW frequencies are 1.8025, 3.5815, 7.0475, 14.0475, 18.0775, 21.0675, 28.0675, 50.350 and 147.555 MHz.

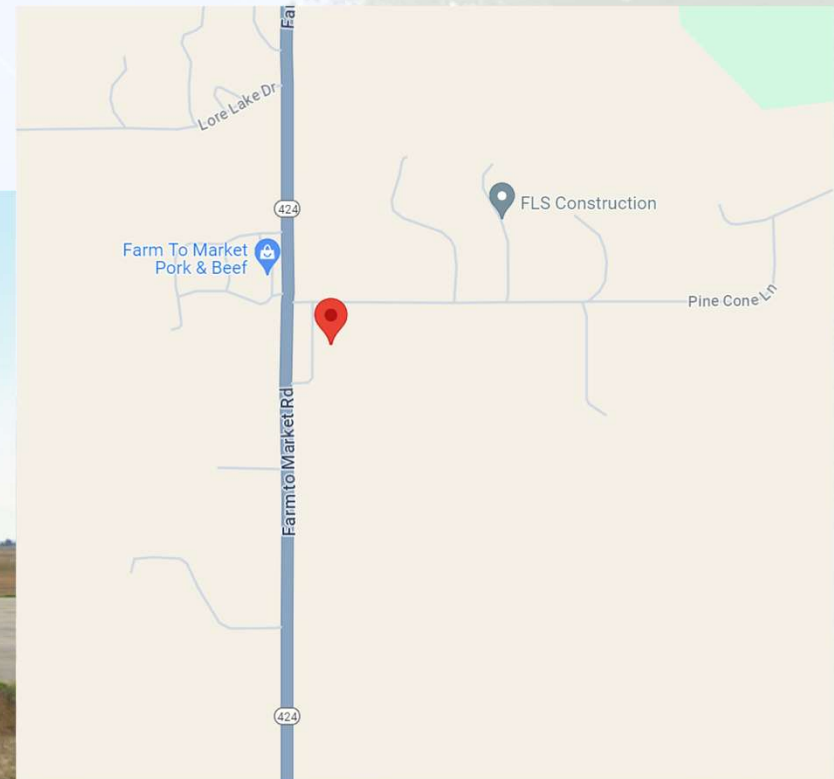
Digital frequencies are 3.5975, 7.095, 14.095, 18.1025, 21.095, 28.095, 50.350 and 147.555 MHz.

During Field Day weekend, W1AW will transmit the Field Day Bulletin using 45.45 baud Baudot, PSK31 (BPSK Mode), and MFSK16 in this mode order. NOTE: On Friday local, the digital version of the Field Day bulletin sent from W1AW at 9 PM EDT (0100 UTC Saturday) will be transmitted using BPSK31, Baudot, and MFSK16 in this order.

Phone frequencies are 1.855, 3.990, 7.290, 14.290, 18.160, 21.390, 28.590, 50.350 and 147.555 MHz.

Our Operating Location (Talk-in: 146.520)

West Valley Fire & Rescue
4195 Farm to Market Rd
Kalispell, MT 59901



Equipment

- Towable crank-up triband yagi (20/15/10m)
- G5RV wire antenna
- Honda generator
- Icom IC-736 HF transceiver
- Tuners
- Power supplies
- Laptop for logging, digital modes
- RigExpert AA-1400 antenna analyzer
- Yaesu FT-710 SDR transceiver



Yaesu FT-710 AESS

- SDR receiver rated in the top 5 by Sherwood Engineering
 - 2 kHz narrow-spaced dynamic range: 107 dB
 - Defines ability to pick out a weak signal next to a much stronger signal
 - Field Day is a perfect proving ground
- Effective QRM rejection via sophisticated DSP
- Acoustic Enhanced Speaker System (AESS) adapts received audio to the environment and the operator
- Panadapter (waterfall) display - find stations quickly and easily
- Color touch screen
- Built-in sound card for digital modes
- Fast auto-tuner
- Supports external monitor
- Keyboard and mouse support

Yaesu FT-710 3D Waterfall



Yaesu FT-710 Traditional Waterfall +



Schedule

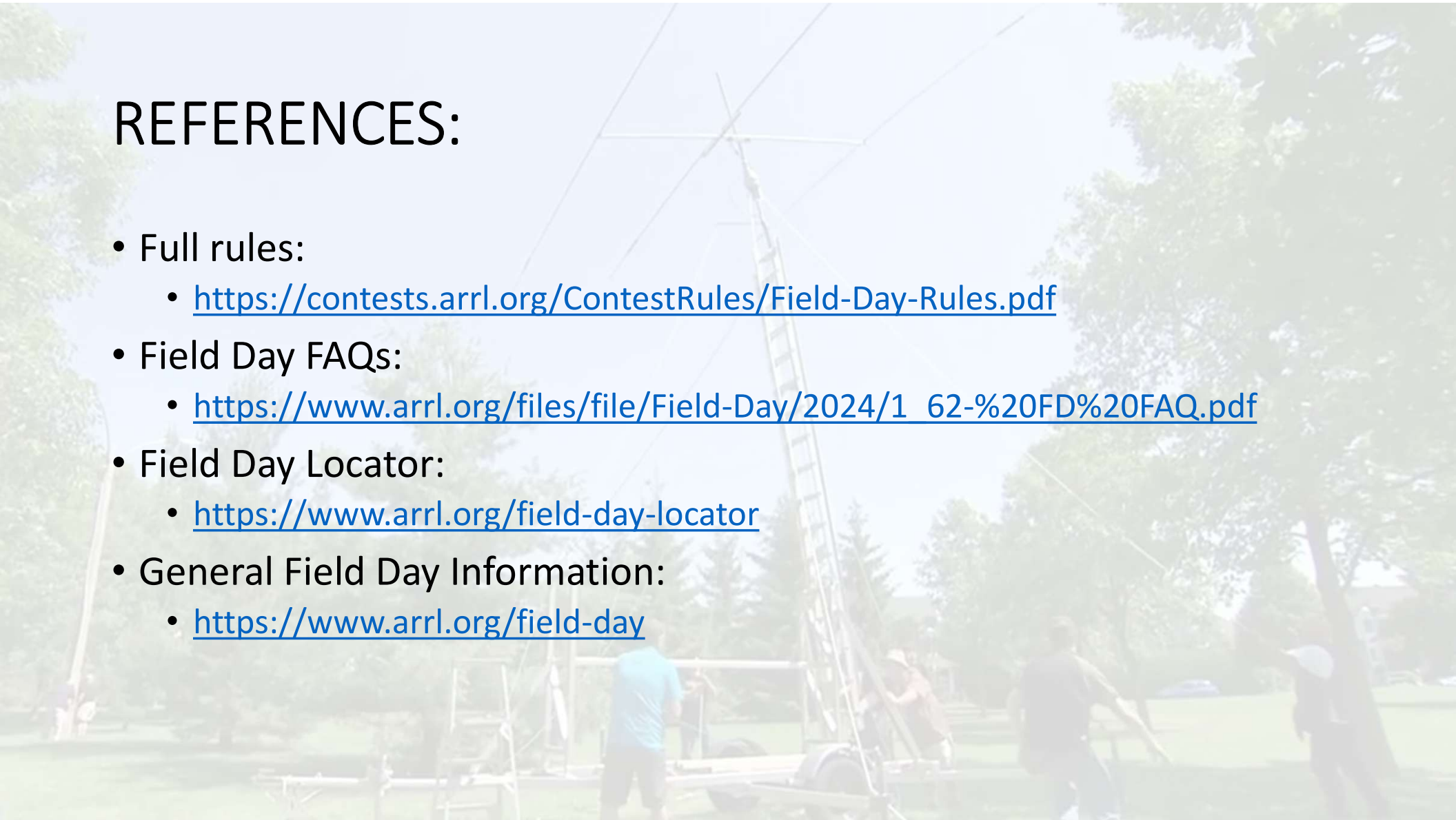
- We'll start arriving with equipment, 1000 MDT Saturday morning
- Begin setting up tower, antennas and operating stations
- Test radios and antennas for operational readiness
- Begin operating at 1200 MDT, operating for the next 24 hours
- Startup grill at 1230 MDT
 - FVARC provides hotdogs and cheeseburgers for members
 - Potluck salads, beverages, desserts, chips & dip, hot dishes....
- Bunks are available for night time operators (bring sleeping bag/pillow)
- Feel free to come and go during the 24 hour operating period
- Cease operating around 1200 MDT Sunday
- Pack-up, cleanup and head home

Potluck Signup

- Bring something for the Saturday afternoon BBQ
- Signup sheet up front, after the meeting
- Indicate whether you'll be bringing a salad, nonalcoholic beverages, dessert, hot dish, etc. and its description
- Indicate your choice of:
 - Single/double burger/cheeseburger
 - Beef hotdog
 - Or, a burger and a dog
- If only coming for the BBQ and possibly staying a while afterwards, please bring your contribution no later than 1230 MDT Saturday

REFERENCES:

- Full rules:
 - <https://contests.arrl.org/ContestRules/Field-Day-Rules.pdf>
- Field Day FAQs:
 - https://www.arrl.org/files/file/Field-Day/2024/1_62-%20FD%20FAQ.pdf
- Field Day Locator:
 - <https://www.arrl.org/field-day-locator>
- General Field Day Information:
 - <https://www.arrl.org/field-day>



A group of people are working on a tall, thin, metallic structure, possibly a mast or antenna, which is mounted on a trailer. The structure is being pulled or moved across a grassy field. Several people are visible around the base of the structure, some standing and some working. The background features a line of trees and a clear blue sky. The text "Q & A" is overlaid in the center of the image.

Q & A