

Oly-Comm Repeater Rules & Etiquette:

Licensed GMRS operators are welcome to use Oly-Comm repeaters for normal, day to day communications (in accordance with the Terms and Conditions published on the web site) unless the repeater is specified as closed for urgent or emergency traffic. Oly-Comm does not charge for use of any repeaters, but voluntary donations strictly to cover system costs and repairs are always welcome.

Please monitor briefly before transmitting to avoid doubling with another transmitting station.

All stations must yield immediately to any form of Emergency Traffic. If you can render assistance to anyone please do so. Please be aware that some operators are also amateur (ham radio) license holders and out of habit they will often use terminology related to ham radio such as "what is your QTH" (Location), or simply the word "break", or "Break Break Break" indicating some kind of emergency message to follow. It is a good idea to familiarize yourself with different radio language from both amateur and public safety users so that you will understand what some station operators may be trying to relay. In accordance with FCC GMRS rules we encourage using clear text, but phonetics and common codes are also appropriate.

The FCC requires that stations identify with their call sign at the end of your conversation, or every 15 minutes. We specify that all GMRS users adhere to these rules.

Oly-Comm unit numbers are assigned, but you are free to use first names as identifiers in the course of an ongoing series of communications. You will still need to identify with your full call sign every 15 minutes and when you end your conversation.

If your "unit #" ends in "0", please pronounce it as "zero" (i.e.: 60 is Six Zero). This is for clarity only. To contact another user, please say their "unit #" first, then yours. (i.e.: 236 from 573. This makes it clearer who is calling whom especially if you're not getting clear audio from the repeater due to location or adverse conditions.

Restrictions for the use of this repeater are:

- No profanity.
- Keep CB slang, etc. to an absolute minimum. Preferable none at all.
- No **indiscriminate** keying or "kerchunking" of the repeater.
- No non-directed communications, except in case of an emergency.
- Only communications allowed by the FCC. 47CFR, Part 95 are permitted, except as noted above.

Repeater Jamming or other Interference Issues:

- Please do not acknowledge transmissions from unlicensed stations or stations causing the interference.
- Please do not discuss the repeater interference on the AIR. If you are being interfered with, you are required to simply sign off and leave the repeater immediately. Continuing to use the repeater or arguing with the jammer eggs on the jammer and makes the situation worse.
- Be prepared to report the time, your location, signal strength, the type of antenna you were using, and if directional, the direction in degrees from your station, from which you are receiving the offending signal.
- Let the Oly-Comm system operators handle interference problem. There may be a control operator taking action of which you are unaware.
- Repeater owners do have the authority and responsibility to monitor and maintain complete control of the repeaters.
- While using the repeater system and dealing with jammers, do not add to the situation by making disparaging or snide comments about any repeater owner. Our control operators are listening most of the time. Very little goes on that we don't already know about.

Comments and Language

Reminder: Due to the open nature of GMRS and any open radio networks, your communications may be heard by others. There should be no expectation of privacy when you communicate by radio on the Oly-Comm network. If a specific communication requires confidentiality or is not suitable for public "ears", you should use other communications methods.

- Regardless of the situation, off color comments, sexual innuendo etcetera are NEVER allowed and will not be tolerated on the Oly-Comm GMRS repeater system.
- Commercial communications - you can certainly, identify your occupation, however, if you are, for example, a car salesman, you CANNOT try to sell your cars on the repeater. Talking about prices of radio equipment and general reviews of such equipment is acceptable.
- Prohibited Speech - Hate Speech or derogatory remarks directed at any person or group (including political, ethnic, racial, religious, sexual orientation, etc.) is not allowed.
- In all actuality, others on the air simply don't want to hear personal rants about your current belief system.
- Life Threats - saying stuff like you want to 'harm, inflict injury or kill' any other person or animal (unless talking about hunting and fishing) is against Repeater Use policy. Such speech may also be unlawful under local, State and/or Federal Laws.
- Bathroom humor – If you wouldn't tell the joke to your eight year old child or eighty year old grandmother, don't tell it on the repeater.
- Any activity in violation of FCC rules and/or any other Federal, State or local laws or ordinances (including, but not limited to jamming, "stepping on", broadcasting of music, unidentified carrier etcetera) is against the Oly-Comm 'Repeater Use Policy'.
- Intentionally transmitting simultaneously with another station or 'stepping on' is prohibited by FCC regulation...even if the intent is good-natured kidding among friends... It is still unlawful.
- Proper and legal operating etiquette is really about common sense and courtesy. While the above limits on content are not all inclusive, they should make clear the type of communications which are allowed on the repeater system and which are not allowed.
- Users of any repeater system may find it interesting to note that repeater owners have the legal authority to ban problem users from their repeaters and coordinated frequency pairs on a suspension or permanent basis. Besides legally banning you from our repeaters, Oly-Comm repeater owners reserve the right to file the appropriate, corresponding FCC action against the offending station, including, but not limited to, taking separate Civil action against the offender. In general, if what is being said could be construed as embarrassing or hurtful by a listener, it is probably NOT permitted. Always err on the side of caution. When in doubt...DON'T!
- If your conduct on the air is bad enough, a repeater owner or other station operator may tell you to knock it off over the air, and if so, it's over, don't dwell upon it further.
- If you received a notice by email or in US mail letter pointing out a possible violation of the repeater use policy, please accept the note as a helpful reminder to follow our guidelines in the future. We have sent you the notice in the spirit of trying to bring your attention to the problem at hand. Unless you were told over the air to cease transmission, any written notice will be sent with your privacy in mind. We will never discuss the matter further unless you continue to violate the policy.

Questions regarding this policy are always encouraged, please feel free to contact us at info@radioofhope.org