

Guidelines for Users of the WM4B Repeaters System

- Courteous and legal use of the WM4B Repeater System is the responsibility of all users. These guidelines define operating practices expected from users of the system. Individuals who refuse to abide by these guidelines will be asked to refrain from using the WM4B Repeater System
- Emergency use of the repeater system will take precedence over all other use.
- Organized activities such as nets or training drills have priority over routine use.
- Before keying your transmitter, listen for activity on the repeater to be certain you are not interrupting an ongoing conversation.
- Keep individual transmissions short. The timeout timer on the WM4B Repeater System is set to three minutes; however continuous transmission of this length is discouraged because it may preclude access by an operator who has emergency traffic.
- Limit your continuous use of a repeater to a reasonable length as a courtesy to other operators.
- 'Drive Time' operators should be given priority access during times of routine communications.
- Do not interrupt an ongoing conversation unless you have an emergency or something meaningful to contribute to the conversation. Doing so on the repeater is no less impolite than doing so in person.
- To initiate a contact, simply indicate that you are on the frequency. "This is (your call sign) monitoring" will suffice.
- Use of the repeaters should be avoided when simplex communications is possible.
- Users engaged in routine communications must wait for the courtesy tone prior to transmitting. This will enable other operators to break in to the conversation in the event of an emergency.
- Users must identify with their FCC assigned call sign at least once every ten minutes and at the end of a conversation.
- Always identify your transmissions, even if you just key up the repeater for a test purposes. "Kerchunking" is illegal and will not be tolerated.
- When accessing repeater ancillary functions (time, signal test, etc.), identify your transmission PRIOR to accessing the control function.
- "CB" style talk and off-color remarks have no place in amateur radio and will not be tolerated on the WM4B Repeater System. Keep your activities on our repeaters responsible and courteous.
- Negative discussions about other amateurs will not be tolerated.
- Transmissions for business purposes are illegal are not acceptable on the WM4B Repeater System.
- After you activate your transmitter, wait 1 – 2 seconds prior to speaking. This will ensure that the first syllable or two of your conversation is not lost. THIS IS IMPERATIVE when the repeater is linked to the Peach State Intertie.
- Amateur Radio is a hobby, but it is expected that all users will adhere to good operating practices. Mistakes are understandable, but practices which do not adhere to these guidelines or those of 'Good Amateur Practice' will be gently corrected. Don't be offended, the comments are meant to be constructive.
- Construction and maintenance of the WM4B Repeater System represent a significant investment in both money and time. Users of the WM4B Repeater System should demonstrate respect for these investments through their compliance to these guidelines.