

# Get Ready for “Ham Radio Open House” on World Amateur Radio Day 2025

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To help promote amateur radio science and technology, and to honor the 100th anniversary of the International Amateur Radio Union (IARU), ARRL is inviting radio clubs and schools to organize a Ham Radio Open House on April 18, 2025.

The event is intended to highlight the Amateur Radio Service for its development and practice of the latest radio communications and technology, and as a hands-on pathway into science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) fields for the next generation.

On April 18, 2025, amateur radio clubs, school stations, and other groups will have the opportunity to advance public knowledge about ham radio by welcoming their communities into their stations for the Ham Radio Open House, as part of World Amateur Radio Day. The focus will be on scientific advancement and demonstrating cutting-edge technology. This is a chance to not only shape the conversation about modern ham radio but also show how it serves as a stepping stone and test bed for many young people pursuing future STEM education and high-tech careers.

## One Million Acts of Science



ARRL has teamed up with Ham Radio Science Citizen Investigation (HamSCI) and the science community organization SciStarter to invite the public to participate in One Million Acts of Science

**18  
APRIL**



# HAM RADIO OPEN HOUSE

World Amateur Radio Day 2025



[www.arrl.org/world-amateur-radio-day](http://www.arrl.org/world-amateur-radio-day)

during April, which is Citizen Science Month. By hosting a Ham Radio Open House at your group’s station on April 18, you’ll introduce individuals who might never otherwise find out about today’s amateur radio, where science and technology intersect with fun and learning.

Clubs are encouraged to showcase the latest weak-signal modes, such as FT8, using *WSJT-X* or other digital modes. This could be a great opportunity to explore new areas of amateur radio and demonstrate



Lead HamSCI organizer Dr. Nathaniel Frissell, W2NAF, shows a visitor WSJT software at W3USR, The University of Scranton amateur radio station. [Photo courtesy of University of Scranton]

how the service is at the cutting edge of electrical engineering.

### HamSCI and SciStarter Collaborations

# HamSCI

HamSCI ([www.hamsci.org](http://www.hamsci.org)) has built a community by connecting radio amateurs and citizen scientists in ionospheric

research. The Solar Eclipse QSO Parties held during the 2023 annular eclipse and the 2024 total solar eclipse provided significant data for researchers studying the ionosphere's response to the eclipses, wrapped into fun operating events.



SciStarter is working to engage people from all walks of life in one million acts of science during Citizen Science

Month in April ([www.scistarter.org/citizensciencemonth](http://www.scistarter.org/citizensciencemonth)), to promote public participation in scientific research. ARRL's Ham Radio Open House provides a unique opportunity to help achieve that goal.

ARRL, HamSCI, and SciStarter are working to help local clubs engage in community outreach for the Ham Radio Open House.

Imagine your open-house visitors seeing a software-defined radio (SDR) waterfall display and then hearing what the signal they see on the screen sounds like — that's an act of science! Taking it a step further, let them take a standing wave ratio (SWR) measurement of an antenna, modify it slightly, and take another

## Preparing Your Open House

**Enlist the Nearest Club Station.** Clubs and schools are encouraged to welcome visitors to their existing club station or organize some other comfortable indoor space (ideal for April weather). This is a different approach than the readiness demonstrations for ARRL Field Day.

**A Focus on Innovation.** Show off the cutting-edge science and technology behind amateur radio. Create a “wow” factor and be prepared to describe what visitors are seeing and hearing. It's all about highlighting technical advancements and innovations that make ham radio so exciting today.

**Make It Modern.** Aim to counter the misconception that ham radio is “old” technology. Showcase the high-tech aspects of amateur radio. Think satellite communications, HF weak-signal modes, VHF/UHF/microwave stations, computer networking and integrated devices, constructing antennas, and test and measurement equipment.

**Welcome the Community.** The Ham Radio Open House should be held in a public space, such as a club or school station, library, or municipal building. If your club doesn't have a facility, consider partnering with local astronomy clubs or other science-minded groups.

reading. They've just gathered data, made a physical change, and measured the impact of their modifications. Not only is that an additional act of science, but it's also a great way to engage people in hands-on learning about ham radio. With this kind of involvement, visitors will be more likely to return for a club meeting or participate in future events.

Clubs will be asked to track those acts of science and submit a report to ARRL detailing the number of acts and the total number of visitors. Find details and information for reporting your club's participation in the open house at [www.arrl.org/world-amateur-radio-day](http://www.arrl.org/world-amateur-radio-day).

## IARU Turns 100

World Amateur Radio Day, held on April 18 each year, is celebrated worldwide by radio amateurs and their national associations, which are organized as member-societies of the IARU. It was on this day in 1925 that the IARU was formed in Paris. ARRL co-founder Hiram Percy Maxim was its first president. ARRL is the Secretariat of the IARU.

