
Volunteer Monitor Program Report

The Volunteer Monitor (VM) Program is a joint initiative between ARRL and the FCC to enhance compliance in the Amateur Radio Service. This is the April 2024 activity report of the VM Program.

◆ Two operators in West Virginia and two operators in North Carolina received notices concerning wideband operation of 6 to 7 kHz wide on 75 and 40 meters, contrary to FCC rules. Operators in Florida, Ohio, Kentucky, Virginia, and Georgia received notices for wideband operation of 6 to 8 kHz wide on 40 meters. Commission Rule 97.307(a) provides that “no amateur shall occupy more bandwidth than necessary for the information rate and emission type being transmitted, in accordance with good amateur practice.”

◆ An electric cooperative power company in Arkansas received an advisory notice due to unlicensed operation on 145.500 MHz by its fiber optics contractor working in Sharp, Izard, and Fulton counties.

◆ Technician-class operators in Maryland and California received advisory notices for operating FT8 on 20 and 40 meters. Technicians have no 20-meter operating privileges and may operate only CW on 40 meters.

◆ An operator in Massachusetts received an advisory notice for failure to identify during 75-meter transmissions of more than 30 minutes. Section 97.119(a) requires amateur stations to transmit the assigned call sign at the end of each communication and at least every 10 minutes during a communication.

◆ During April there was one referral from the VM Program to the FCC, at the request of the FCC, regarding repeater interference findings. A VM Program presentation was given to the Mt. Airy VHF Radio Club in Warminster, Pennsylvania.

◆ The totals for March 2024 monitoring were 1,166 hours on HF frequencies, and 1,046 hours on VHF frequencies and above, for a total of 2,212 hours. — Thanks to Volunteer Monitor Program Administrator Riley Hollingsworth, K4ZDH