



Welcome to the inaugural “Activate the Adirondacks” event. If you received this message, it is because you have registered to participate in the event. The inspiration for this event is rooted in POTA, SOTA, and the love of the Adirondack Park in beautiful northern NY.

I would like to take this opportunity to acknowledge and thank our event sponsor Reliance Antennas.

Reliance Antennas offers quality HF wire antennas you can rely on for portable and emergency use. Please visit their website at <https://www.relianceantennas.com/>. They have generously offered event participants a 10% discount on their products when you use the code “adirondack” at checkout.

Background

In this document we refer to POTA and SOTA often. POTA stands for “Parks on the Air” and is a wildly popular activity within the Amateur Radio world. The golden rules for POTA are “have fun and keep it simple”. We will be following these golden rules here. SOTA stands for “Summits on the Air”. SOTA is like POTA, however SOTA takes it up a notch where instead of finding national or state parks, activators hike to various summits and operate from mountain or hill tops. Another fun activity to do in the Adirondacks is hiking the Fire Towers. There are radio operators who enjoy hiking and climbing up the fire towers and making contact from there. This event can be for those individuals as well. For more information on POTA please visit <https://parksontheair.com/>, to learn more on SOTA please visit <https://www.sota.org.uk/>. A list of Fire Towers in the Adirondacks are available at <https://www.alltrails.com/lists/adirondack-fire-towers>.

Rules

This event is meant to be fun and relaxing therefore the rules are simple. Activators will go set up anywhere in the Adirondack Park and call CQ. Hunters will try to find the Activators and work as many Adirondack Zones as possible. Of course, Activators will also be able to work other activators.

There are 6 Adirondack Zones shown on the map attached to this document. All 6 zones are part of POTA park US-2001. An activation of an Adirondack Zone is qualified by obtaining a minimum of 10 QSO's within that zone.

***A minimum of 10 QSO's is also required for a POTA activation and a minimum of 4 QSO's is required for SOTA activation). You can do all at the same time!*

There is no time limit on the activation other than the general event time which is from September 12th at noon (EST) through September 14th at 5:00 pm (EST).

*** Remember POTA activations still need to follow POTA rules which require 10 QSO's within a single UTC Day (Zulu day).*

All modes are allowed and all non-WARC bands are allowed. To comply with the standards set forth in the Parks on the Air program we discourage the use of WARC bands (60 meters, 30 meters, 17 meters, 12 meters) from being used. This is due to unnecessary congestion that may occur on these bands due to event activity.

REGISTERED PARTICIPANTS WILL:

- 1. OPERATE WITHIN ARRL'S OPERATING ETHICS GUIDELINE.**
- 2. OPERATE ACCORDING TO THE DX CODE OF CONDUCT.**
- 3. RESPECT THE GUIDANCE AND DECISIONS OF THE ADIRONDACK PARK'S RANGERS/OFFICIALS WHEN OPERATING.**
- 4. RESPECT THE ADIRONDACK PARK BY FOLLOWING THE "LEAVE NO TRACE" PRINCIPLES.**
[HTTPS://WWW.ADIRONDACKCOUNCIL.ORG/ABOUT-THE-PARK/LEAVE-NO-TRACE/](https://www.adirondackcouncil.org/about-the-park/leave-no-trace/)
- 5. BE SAFE.**

Exchange

During the exchange activators and hunters can also perform POTA/SOTA exchanges at the same time. An acceptable exchange is one formatted like a POTA exchange and adding the Adirondack Zone you are currently set up in. An example exchange is below:

Activator: CQ Special Event, CQ Activate the Adirondacks, this is **CALLSIGN** calling CQ.

Hunter: **HUNTER CALLSIGN**

Activator: **HUNTER CALLSIGN** this is **ACTIVATOR CALLSIGN** you are **SIGREPORT** into Park US-2001 (*and any additional parks you are in*), Adirondack Zone **ZONE#**.

Hunter: Thank you **ACTIVATOR CALLSIGN**, you are **SIGREPORT**, into (OPTIONAL LOCATION)

Activator: Thank you for hunting... 73...

Map

The Adirondack Park is in Northern New York and was established in 1892 for both watershed protection and for free use to the people. The park at 6.1 million acres is the largest park in the contiguous United States. The park contains 46 High Peaks (great for SOTA), 2,800 lakes and ponds, and 30,000 miles of rivers and streams. There are many other parks within the park for the POTA people. But most of all the park is beautiful and offers an amazing interaction with nature.

We have divided the park into 6 zones based on the area and road boundaries. The attached map shows the differing zones for activators to use as reference when they make contacts. Real hard-core activators may even try to activate all 6 zones.

Submission

After the event is over you can send your logs in either .adif or Cabrillo formats to logsubmit@efmarc.org. We will then compile the received log information and issue both activator and hunter certificates for various participation levels.

Participation Certificates

There are 4 levels of event participation that will garner a digital certificate issued to both activators and hunters. The levels are as follows:

Activator Levels

- Bronze: Activate 1 Adirondack Zone
- Silver: Activate 3 Adirondack Zones
- Gold: Activate 5 Adirondack Zones
- Platinum: Activate all 6 Adirondack Zones

Hunter Levels

- Bronze: Hunt 5 Activators in 1 Adirondack Zone
- Silver: Hunt 5 Activators in 3 Adirondack Zones
- Gold: Hunt 5 Activators in 5 Adirondack Zones
- Platinum: Hunt 5 Activators in all 6 Adirondack Zones

Assistance and Comments

If anyone needs help with the rules, map, or log submissions simply reach out to info@efmarc.org and we will get back to you as soon as possible. For comments and/or concerns please feel free to reach out to plantejr@gmail.com. Remember this is an inaugural event. We plan on using feedback to help shape future events. Please be kind when voicing concerns or dislikes. We listen to all comments and opinions and welcome all criticism if it is done politely. As a participant you are just as crucial as the organizers in making this event better for the future, so please give us feedback.

Thank you, good luck, and 73!

