

What Can I Tune in With my New Handie-Talkie (HT) or Base Radio?

Please check my website for more info and latest updates. I will try to add more interesting places to visit, as well as handouts from our meetings, in the future:

<http://www.k7daa.com/hamlinks.html>

Try these local repeaters for listening fun or casual chatting with new friends (note: you don't need the CTCSS or PL tone just to LISTEN to a repeater, only to transmit to it!):

442.900 MHz - 162.2 Hz PL tone - This is a repeater in Loma Prieta near the top of Hwy 17. Covers most of Santa Clara County, Santa Cruz, Salinas. It is linked full-time to the Win System (www.winsystem.org), which is a group of 74 repeaters around the US, Canada, Alaska, Japan, Australia, and Britain. Listen at 11 PM each night for the Insomniac Net to hear how others check in to a formal net, and to listen how the net control operator works. Many new hams on this system, and they welcome very new and inexperienced people.

145.230 MHz - 100 Hz PL - This is the very popular Palo Alto repeater, whose antenna is located near the big dish on the Stanford campus. Ranges from difficult to impossible to use in Morgan Hill and points south unless you have a base station and/or roof-mounted antenna, or are located on a hillside favoring north. A handie-talkie connected to a beam antenna mounted high on a rooftop will usually work if carefully installed. This is the most active repeater in the Bay Area. Listen for the 9 AM Talk Net. All are welcome to check in and join the group. Many interesting, wide-ranging topics. Many new hams start out here, and people are very polite and welcoming.

146.640 MHz - 162.2 Hz PL - This repeater is located in the same building as the 442.900 repeater, but with slightly better coverage because of the lower frequency. Often quiet for hours, but a good place to meet people and chat casually (hams call that "ragchewing"). Wide coverage area--Santa Clara, Santa Cruz, Salinas, Monterey Counties are well-covered. Very good handie-talkie coverage in San Jose, Morgan Hill, and Gilroy. A bit spotty but usable with a handie-talkie in Hollister.

147.825 MHz - 100 Hz PL - This is the Morgan Hill repeater, W6GGF, operated by the Garlic Valley Amateur Radio Club (GVARC). It is an ARES repeater, and is used frequently during local emergencies (think rain-caused floods, or cut AT&T cables!). Very, very quiet during most of the day. Good place for casual talk if you can find somebody to talk to. They have an ARES net check-in each Tuesday night at 7:30. Very good handie talkie coverage in Morgan Hill, South San Jose, and Gilroy.

146.520 Nationwide Simplex Calling Frequency--ham "intercom" channel
224.600 Condor Network (linked repeaters throughout California and Arizona).

Your walkie-talkie or base radio is also a scanner! Try some of these frequencies (listen only, of course!):

155.115 Morgan Hill Police

154.830 Gilroy Police

154.250 Santa Clara County Fire (Morgan Hill to Los Altos areas)

156.210 Santa Clara County Sheriff (quite busy--covers wide area)

158.775 San Benito County Sheriff (covers Hollister)