

## Press Release

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### **Northern Ohio Digital Interconnect Group Launches the Ohio Wide Area D-STAR Net** *Press Release*

Lorain County Ohio – In an effort to further amateur radio and the exciting mode of D-STAR the Northern Ohio Digital Interconnect Group along with amateurs in Greater Cleveland, Akron, Columbus, Cincinnati and Michigan have joined forces to form the Ohio Wide Area D-STAR Net.

This net will operate in conjunction with many existing D-STAR repeaters on the newly formed Reflector 38 Alpha (REF038A), along with several planned sites, to form a reliable network of communication to be used for training in the operation of D-STAR. It will also allow for a platform to test communication links in the event of an emergency or natural disaster within the state or surrounding areas.

D-STAR technology offers the unique ability for amateurs all over the state to educate each other & build friendships while testing equipment. This infrastructure could be used to provide a valuable service to the community. Whether it is communication for a multi county marathon, friends chatting from Akron to Cincinnati or relaying tornado damage from a stricken town across the state D-STAR has something for everyone.

Please join the weekly Ohio Wide Area D-STAR net Sunday January the 9<sup>th</sup> at 8:00 PM local time. Connection via repeater, dongle or DVAP can be made directly to reflector REF038A. All amateurs regardless of location or affiliation are encouraged to join in.

The Northern Ohio Digital Interconnect Group was formed by D-STAR users and enthusiasts from Lorain, Lake, and Cuyahoga counties to advance the technology by expanding D-STAR coverage in Northern Ohio.

D-STAR (Digital Smart Technology for Amateur Radio) is a digital 2-way radio network comprised of VHF and UHF repeater systems that can be interconnected via the Internet, on the fly. Advanced features include Automatic Unit ID, TX/Instant Messaging and GPS unit location.