

# Central Ohio Traffic Net

*Training traffic handlers since 1984*

<http://www.cotn.us>

## Training tips and information.

Welcome to the first edition of the COTN newsletter. We hope to provide you with timely training information and tips on traffic handling. Look for these to come out no less than quarterly.

### THIS ISSUE

#### CONTAINS:

- **What is traffic handling?**
- **How can I get involved?**
- **What is a radiogram?**

In this issue we'll cover, what is traffic handling, how can I get involved and what is a radiogram.

#### What is traffic handling?

During times of emergency, it can be imperative that communication happen reliably. For that reason, the American Radio Relay League developed the National Traffic System, or NTS. The NTS is made up of a series of nets, occurring at the regional, state (section), and local levels.

The purpose of the NTS is to move formal **message (aka radiogram)** traffic from one location to another.

#### What is a radiogram?

It is a plaintext message, along with relevant metadata (headers), that is placed into a traffic net by an amateur radio operator. Each radiogram is relayed, possibly through one or more

other amateur radio operators, to a radio operator who volunteers to deliver the message content to its destination.

#### How can I get involved?

If you're a licensed amateur radio operator, you can set your 2m radio to 147.24 Mhz in central Ohio and check-in to the COTN. We meet every night at 7:15PM(1915). We're a training net of the National Traffic system and always welcome new people.

#### Conclusion

Hopefully this small amount of information has piqued an interest in what traffic handling is all about and we welcome you to check-in to our net. Look in the next newsletter for discussion on what is known as part 1 of a radiogram called the preamble.

Send suggestions, criticisms, etc to [n8xct@arrl.net](mailto:n8xct@arrl.net).

