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AMATEUR RADIO
COMMUNICATIONS

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MILAM COUNTY ARES NEWSLETTER

Volume 10 Issue 8

MILAM COUNTY ARES NEWS



Stuart Wolfe – KF5NIX, Milam County Amateur Radio Emergency Coordinator

This month we will discuss different ways to seal up your outside coaxial connections. If you talk to anyone they will have definite ideas about what to use and what not to use.

One of the most used products is plain old black electrical tape. Since the original has come out, there have been way too many to list in this newsletter. You can get it in almost any color you want, as well as various sizes. You can also get it in self sealing (almost waterproof), which you can find at places like Home Depot, and Lowes. The upside of electrical tape is the cost, and the ability to find it al-

most anywhere. The downside is that since you can get various brands of it, some brands do not work well outside in the Texas heat.

The next product is called Coax-Seal, It is sold in fewer stores than electrical tape, but it is worth getting if you find it. It comes off the backing like really sticky electrical tape, but it is hand moldable. It also stays flexible at extreme temperatures, and forms easily to odd shaped connectors. The website for this product is:

www.CoaxSeal.com

Another product is the liquid electrical tape. You can find it almost anywhere now, Wal-Mart, hardware stores, Home Depot, and Lowes. It comes in several colors, and almost every version I have seen comes with a brush applicator built into the handle. The way it works is you use the brush to 'paint' the liquid tape on whatever you are wanting to seal up. It works best in warmer weather, since the heat helps cure it faster. There is also an aerosol version of liquid electrical tape too, but it comes out in a much thinner layer, and takes several passes to get a thick layer on your connections.

The last way is a product that is specifically used to cover the ends of your coax connectors, and it is sold from several companies too. It is a type of rubber protective cap, it fits very snugly over your coax connectors to keep dirt, debris, and water out. You can usually find them sold separately or in a bag with several rubber caps.

The link is: <https://abrind.com/coax-guide/shop/uncategorized/protective-caps-for-pl259-connectors/>

I hope this has been an informative newsletter, and if you wish to have something put in one of the newsletters, send it to me at KF5NIX@ARRL.NET and I will find a way to incorporate it in.

If you have not done so yet, go to the ARRLSTX depot site listed below.

http://www.arrlstx.org/vault_area/vault_gateway/site_gateway/vault_gateway.php there are several items listed on the workbook there that many of you have already accomplished in the past, just use your best guess as to the date and I will approve them.

As I have mentioned before, if you complete any of the online courses send me a copy of the certificate so we will have it on file in case of an emergency so we know who we can call on.

You can get your workbook as well as other forms at the Milam County Ares website:

<http://milamcountyares.weebly.com/>

Thank you,
Stuart Wolfe – KF5NIX – EC Milam County

Rockdale – 146.760 – PL – 123, Milam ARC weekly net – Monday nights at 8:00 P.M.

Cameron – 147.020 – PL – 123, Milam County ARES net – Thursday nights at 7:00 P.M.

Davilla – 147.000 – PL – 123, Milam ARC nets – Last Monday of each month held here.

Milam ARES 2 Meter Data Repeater 145.030 Mhz This repeater is a simplex repeater with store and resend software in the modem at the transceiver. This call sign is CAMRLY. The repeater is on the Milam County Communication Tower and uses the same antenna as the 147.020 repeater. That antenna is a db224 with 6db gain. It is approximately 150 feet AGL.