A Ham's Mind Experiment.

So what should Prepper's prep for when it comes to radio communications?
Let's try this mind experiment.

First the Assumptions:

Licensed HAM operators in the U.S. = 700,000

Total U.S. Population: = 350,000,000

Therefore, Percentage of population that are HAMS: Two tenths of a percent. (**.002**)

All HAMS have 2 Meter HAM radios, with a 50 mile range using Repeaters, otherwise a 6 Mile range.
60% of HAMS have equipment to use HAM bands beyond 2 Meters.

Only **1%** of the population are Preppers.
75% of the population will be out of food within 3 days of collapse.

All Non-HAM Preppers will have GMRS walkie talkies.
50% of Non-HAM Preppers will have a Baofeng 2 Meter radio.

GMRS Radios are only good for about 1/4th Mile range.

If collapse occurs and Bug Out is required, things will deteriorate quickly in 14 days.

I live in Santa Rosa County, Florida, Population is **161,000.**

Second: The Mind Journey.

HAM Operators in Two Weeks.

Number of HAM operators Alive after two weeks.

= County Population X % HAMS X % Preppers
= 161,000 X .002 X .01
= 3 HAM Operators.

Third: HAM Operators On Air after Two Weeks:

These are the ones with both power and not too depressed to talk.
My Guess = 50%, or 1.5 HAM Operators

Fourth: Non-HAMs Using Deceased HAM's Radios:

My Guess = None. Scavengers will not know who the HAMS are; Be able to locate radios, Know how to charge or use them.

Fifth: Non-HAMs Preppers on the 2 Meter air.

= County Population X % Preppers X % 2 Meter Radios
= 161,000 X .01 X .5

= 800 Non-HAMS

Sixth: Non-HAMs On the Air:

My Guess: 200 (25%) Most will not be able to power them or risk revealing their location, depression may set in.
Note: This assumes that the Repeater system common to them is up.

Seventh: Common Repeaters Down:

My Guess: 1 Must be within 6 miles of you.

Conclusion:

2 Meter radios will give you information for about two weeks, then will deteriorate until the repeater power goes off.

Most Preppers that are near you will then be on GMRS. As you link with others in your 1 mile radius you can best communicate with them on GMRS. The 1 Mile comes from a raised GMRS antenna or 2 Meter antenna ($15) and Baofeng radio ($25).

The 2 Meter radio can communicate with another 2 Meter radio up to 6 miles away.

The Baofeng is the only HAM 2 Meter that can communicate on both HAM and GMRS, so have one

(2 is better)!

A $30 Yagi directional hand held antenna in conjunction with a Baofeng will give you the direction of a local GMRS signal.

Therefore, you are looking at county intel for about a month then a one mile radius of intel.

Locate Prepper HAMS now and schedule Net Meets with them!