

The FOX is back – 2024 MCRCA Foxhunts

This year – MCRCA will again be hosting a series of foxhunts. Everyone including members, non-members, friends, other organizations, hams and non-hams are invited to join in the fun.

For those not familiar – all hunt teams meet at a given location and receive a pre-hunt brief along with a hunt package. At the designated start time, the FOX begins transmitting. Participating teams begin efforts to locate the fox, which is hidden within a designated area (in this case up to 7 miles away from the start location). Teams earn points according to the distance traveled in locating the fox. The winning team will be the one traveling the least number of odometer miles to find the fox. Each team records distance with the fox when located. Time is not a factor in scoring (unless needed as tie breaker), but the hunt is terminated when the fox stops transmitting after 3 hours.

Minimum Equipment necessary:

A 2M radio or receiver capable of receiving **146.475 MHz FM**.

Additional Equipment could include (but is not limited to):

Directional Antenna, Attenuator, Street Map of Monroe County, Compass, Straight Edge, Protractor

2024 Foxhunt Schedule

Hunt #1	Saturday May 11, 2024
Hunt #2	TBD
Hunt #3	TBD



Additional Hunts may be scheduled depending on demand.

Basic Instructions

- We will meet in the parking lot at Emergency Management Offices 987 S. Raisinville at 08:45 where you will be given a pre-hunt brief (instructions and information specific to the hunt)
- Teams are identified and recorded by the hunt coordinator
- Each team will be given a SEALED envelope – MAKE SURE IT STAYS SEALED (if you open the envelope you will receive same points as someone not finding the fox)
- On the outside of the envelope, write the names/ call signs of all team members. Also record starting mileage on your vehicle to the nearest 1/10 mile. Best to use trip odometer for 1/10ths miles. (use trip odometer if needed for 1/10-mile increments)
- At 09:00, the FOX will begin transmitting on the Hunt Frequency of **146.475 MHz** (transmissions will repeat on a cycle of 1 minute on / 1 minute off for the duration of the hunt)
- After taking initial readings to determine direction to the fox, teams will depart on their quest to find the fox's hiding spot. (remember scoring is determined by least distance traveled so strategy is an important factor – other than the 3-hour hunt limit, time is not a factor so **travel safely and legally**)
- When you find the fox, record your ending mileage (tenths of mile) on the envelope (the one that is hopefully still sealed. And leave the envelope with the fox operator
- You will be given instructions for a place to go so that other hunters do not see you talking to the fox. We will meet following the hunt for lunch and debrief. Lunch location will be Benny's in south Monroe (15239 S. Dixie) unless otherwise indicated during pre-hunt brief.
- If you DON'T find the fox by the end time of the hunt (12:00), you may open the envelope and proceed directly to the fox if you are close or proceed directly to the lunch location where you will turn in your envelope.

(note: the fox will be hungry and departing for lunch shortly after turning off the transmitter)

- Teams choosing to terminate early may open the envelope and proceed directly to the fox to turn in your envelope (or otherwise notify fox/hunt coordinator of termination)
- First place team is responsible for fox duties for the next hunt (second place if first not able to fulfill)
- Teams will be recognized for 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place performance for each individual hunt, and the fox will be recognized/thanked for his/her service. All participating teams will be acknowledged.
- In the case of tied mileage for the top 3 teams, time found will be used as the tie breaker. 2nd tie breaker will be a flip of the foxhunt chairman's Kennedy half-dollar.

Responsibilities of the Hunt Teams

Hunt Teams MUST:

- Be at start location on time. You MUST be present for pre-hunt brief (08:45) to receive hunt package as required to participate.
- REMEMBER – scoring is based on distance travelled (per odometer) to locate the fox.
- Other than the 3-hour hunt limit, time is not a factor. Hunters must travel safely and obey all speed limits, etc.
- SAFETY is a PRIMARY Concern. Use caution when traveling and when stopping and getting out of the vehicle to take readings. DO NOT create a hazard or place yourself or others in a hazardous situation.
- Respect private property. Do not trespass onto private property.
- Respect public property. Do not damage or otherwise trash public property.
- Remember, this is a FRIENDLY competition, everyone is here to have fun.
- Remember, skills learned and refined could be utilized some day (e.g. Locating emergency beacons, jammers, stuck transmitters, lost RFID tagged individuals)
- LEGIBLY record all requested info on the envelope
- Turn in the envelope to the fox or to the hunt coordinator prior to securing from your hunt efforts (or otherwise notify fox or hunt coordinator of Did Not Find status)
- HAVE FUN and BE SAFE

Responsibilities of the FOX

The FOX MUST:

- Be an MCRCA Member or must be accompanied by MCRCA member
- Use common sense when locating fox to avoid placing anyone at risk
- Locate fox within area indicated on below map.
 - o Intent is to be within 7-mile radius (as the crow flies) of Emergency Management Office – 987 South Raisinville Rd Monroe, MI 48161)
- Fox beacon MUST be able to be heard at the start location.
- Locate on public non-residential property in a place accessible to the general public during the hunt. Make sure teams can arrive at fox's hideout without violating any hunt rules
- Locate where no admission charge or payment of any kind is necessary in order to access the Fox's hideout
- The fox must be generally visible to hunters without having to enter any enclosure or densely brushed area.
- Once the hunt begins, the fox is to remain stationary, maintaining antenna orientation and transmit power, until such time as the hunt is terminated.

- Transmit on a frequency of **146.475**.
- Transmit on a cycle of 1 minute on; 1 minute off for duration of the hunt
- Observe Hunt Time Limits; 9:00 AM to 12:00 PM E.D.T.
- Arrange for distribution at starting point of Hunt Envelopes containing:
 - o Map indicating fox's hideout, shortest possible route (per google maps)
 - (Fox will provide sealed envelopes to Hunt Coordinator prior to Hunt)
- Record/ verify odometer mileage and arrival time for successful hunters at the fox's location.
- Send successful hunters to a prearranged location, away from the fox, so as not to give away the Fox's location

