

CALVERT AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION

ECHOLINK SYSTEM

Below is some information about general commands and how to connect to other nodes using the EchoLink repeater:

1) Tune to 146.985 MHz (- offset), PL 156.7 Hz. Listen before accessing the system since others may be using the link. Push and hold your PTT button, then push #1 on your DTMF keypad, then release both buttons, to determine if you are in range of the repeater. The repeater will transmit an identification message in response unless someone is connected. Send #7 to see if anyone is connected. If a station is connected, it will come back with the call, if not, you will hear "NOT CONNECTED".

2) To test the quality of your signal into the repeater and quality of the EchoLink network connection, you may access a test station node (called ECHOTEST) by entering station node number 9999. We recommend that all new users try this test node the first time you try EchoLink to help you become familiar with system use. This node will repeat your transmission back to you so you can hear your transmission quality. Remember to press ## to disconnect when you are done.

3) To make a call, press in your push to talk and hold it while entering # and then the node number of the person you wish to call.

4) When it is accepted by the gateway, listen for connection messages.

5) The gateway will acknowledge when the connection is made. Monitor for other traffic because you might connect in the middle of a QSO. If the link is busy, it will say, "system is busy" and then it will disconnect.

6) Let the carrier drop before you begin to talk. Just remember to wait about 2 seconds after keying before you start to talk. THIS TIMING IS VERY IMPORTANT TO SUCCESS. This is necessary due to delays in your radio, the repeater, and in the transmission over the internet.

7) Remember that you are on the radio so use proper protocol. Please ID before accessing the system, and ID as normal (at least once per 10 minutes) during a QSO.

8) To end the QSO, transmit ## then you should hear the "disconnected" message.

9) If there is priority or emergency traffic, disconnect and relinquish the repeater for emergency use.

10) If you experience any problem with the Echolink System please email: Steve at echolink@n3idx.net and give as much detail as possible as to the nature of the problem.