

N8GD-R EchoLink® on the WD8IJ 147.06+ Repeater

As of July 7, 2012, The WD8IJ 147.66/06 repeater has EchoLink® capabilities for the use of local (and distant) Amateur radio operators. The link is being provided by Greg Day, N8GD, via a 2 meter link to the repeater from his home QTH in Wintersville, Ohio, with Monte's (WD8IJ, the repeater owner) approval. The system consists of a 2 meter transceiver tuned to the 147.66/06 repeater frequency pair, which is in turn connected to a Windows XP PC via a WB2REM/G4CDY AMI EchoLink® interface box, with the PC ultimately being connected to N8GD's high speed Comcast Internet connection to provide for EchoLink's® VOIP capabilities over the 'Net.

The EchoLink® system is continues to be in a test phase, but for the most part appears to be fully operational. Dialing in to EchoLink® via RF (2 meters) using DTMF (TouchTone®) commands has been tested and appears to work well. A list of available commands may be found at the end of this document. Anyone noticing problems with either DTMF (TouchTone®) over-the-air or Internet access should contact Greg Day, N8GD) either on the air or via e-mail (see address below). A training session on the use of EchoLink® will be presented at a future SWARC meeting, perhaps as early as August 1st.

In the mean time, any and all licensed Amateur Radio operators can access the 147.66/06 repeater via EchoLink® either from other EchoLink® equipped repeaters, simplex links, or programs or apps on their desktop PCs or smart phones. The Node Number for N8GD-R (which links to the WD8IJ 147.66/06 repeater) is **730484**.

Please direct any comments or suggestions either on the air on via e-mail to Greg Day, N8GD, n8gd@arrl.net.

Enjoy the new feature!

73,

Greg Day, N8GD - n8gd@arrl.net

Command list on following page

EchoLink® DTMF (TouchTone®) commands for over-air-access (via your 2 meter radio):

(Preface all commands with the "#" key, the key to the right of the "0" key on your tone pad - this is necessary to bypass the repeater's normal cover tone that blanks out and prevents pass-through of DTMF tones)

<u>Command Function:</u>	<u>Keys to press:</u>	<u>Keys to press (including leading "#" key):</u>
Connect:	(key in 4 - 6 digit node) (e.g.: # 7 3 0 4 8 4)	# n n n n, or # n n n n n, or # n n n n n n
Connect to Test Server:	9 9 9 9	# 9 9 9 9
Disconnect:	#	# #
Disconnect All:	# #	# # #
Info:	# *	# # *
Random Node:	0 0	# 0 0
Reconnect:	0 9	# 0 9
Status:	0 8	# 0 8

When pressing your keys to send DTMF commands, press the digits as quickly as possible, minimizing the dead air space between presses of each key. This will ensure proper decoding of the tones. If a command is not recognized, try it again. All commands are acknowledged by EchoLink® upon acceptance of any valid entry.

NOTES:

Node numbers may be found for specific calls signs at <http://echolink.org/links.jsp> or <http://echolink.org/logins.jsp>.

Please note that these commands are unique to the N8GD-R and WD8IJ repeater EchoLink® system. The commands to access other EchoLink® systems will not be the same or require the use of the leading "#" key.

Current as of 7/11/2012