Balloon Sat Flight for Earth Day

Flight: April 17th, 2010
2:00pm at Hayes Nature Preserve (30.643242, -86.464526)

Contact Information
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Background
The University of Alabama in Huntsville (UAH) Space Hardware Club actively flies Balloon Sat missions of various types throughout the year. Balloon Sat missions involve launching experiments designed and built by students on high altitude sounding balloons. This will be the Space Hardware Club’s second flight for the spring of 2010 and the 5th flight for the 2009-2010 school year.

Experiments
The experiments involved on this flight will include:
1) A payload that measures the atmosphere’s temperature, pressure, and humidity.
2) A payload that records video that will stream live to a portable ground station at the Preserve.
3) A payload that includes GPS trackers so that the chase team can follow and recover the payloads.
4) The balloon and the parachute.

Tracking
The tracking of the balloon is carried out using HAM radios. The Tracker call signs and frequencies are as follows:
Tracker call signs: KJ4NKE-11 and KJ4NKE-12 (144.390MHz and 144.340MHz)
Live Position Tracking online using Google Earth at:
http://space.uah.edu

The Launch Site
At the launch site, a mobile ground station will be used to gather a live feed of data and video for the audience to see. This will be presented at the Hayes Nature Preserve.

Itinerary
10:30 AM – Club members will meet for flight preparations at the Space Hardware Lab.
11:00 AM – Ground station team will go to the Communications Lab in EB to prepare for flight. The rest of the team will depart for Hayes Nature Preserve.
12:00 PM Noon– The Space Hardware Club balloon and chase team will prepare the balloon, portable ground station, and payloads for launch.
3:00 PM – The chase team will immediately drive toward the expected landing location.