

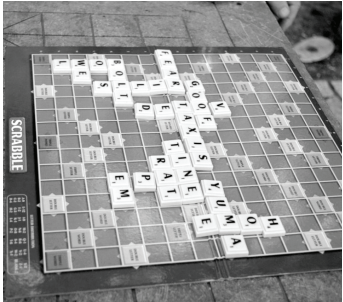


CONCORDIA NEWS

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Hate Scrabble? Read this.
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CNA Mission Statement

To connect Concordia residents and businesses—inform, educate and report on activities, issues and opportunities of the neighborhood

Concordia News

is a free monthly publication of the Concordia Neighborhood Association. Newspapers are delivered to all residences and many community locations in the Concordia neighborhood.

Concordia News is printed on 40% post-consumer or better paper, manufactured at a local mill.

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News from the NET

New Program Recruiting Skilled Volunteers for Help During Emergencies

By Ethan Jewett
Contributing Writer

When a major emergency hits, help won't arrive all at once. In the critical hours following a Cascadia Subduction Zone earthquake or a severe winter storm, the most vital resources in our Northeast neighborhoods will be the people already here: your neighbors, with their professional skills, their tools, and their willingness to show up.

That's the vision behind the Affiliated Team Volunteer (ATV) program; an important new addition to local NET teams designed to credential and map specialized technical skills across Portland before a disaster, rather than scrambling for them after one. Because the Concordia neighborhood and its neighbors in Woodlawn, Vernon, and Sabin share the same geography and risks, we are working together to build a resilient roster of important skills and equipment.

Vetted, Credentialed, and Ready

Unlike general emergency preparedness, the ATV designation is specifically for community members with professional backgrounds or specialized technical capabilities. These volunteers are background-checked, and become credentialed members of their local Neighborhood Emergency Team, and can then join their team for meetings and training opportunities as their schedule allows.

While ATVs are not deployed for non-emergency activations, they serve as the specialized surge capacity that becomes essential the moment a disaster strikes. These roles are organized into Volunteer Support Functions (VSFs); a standardized way of describing what a person can do and what equipment they bring to the table. To see the full breadth of these roles, we have developed a VSF directory that details the specific requirements and deployment profiles for each function. You can access the full directory at tinyurl.com/VSF-ATV.

The Breadth and Depth of VSF Roles

The ATV program covers the full spectrum of community response with specialized roles that go far beyond basic assistance:



During an emergency, Logistics and Transportation ATVs coordinate bicycle transport. Photo by Ethan Jewett.

- **Medical & Health:** This goes beyond basic first aid to include professional medical assets (nurses, doctors, EMTs) and Mental Health First Aid to manage the psychological toll of a major disaster.
- **Communications:** Moving beyond basic radio, these roles include Amateur Radio Operators (AROs), Mesh Network specialists, and IT/Telecom professionals who can restore local data flow when the grid goes dark.
- **Logistics & Transportation:** This includes 4WD/High-Clearance, dual-sport motorcycle, cargo bicycle transport, and licensed drone/UAV pilots for rapid damage assessment.
- **Infrastructure & Sanitation:** These specialists in emergency sanitation prevent disease when water systems fail, and clear debris to reopen neighborhood lifelines.
- **Language & Access:** Translation and interpretation ATVs ensure that emergency information reaches every household, regardless of the language spoken at home.

A Role for Every Skillset

Whether you are a structural engineer, bilingual educator, ham radio enthusiast, or logistics pro, there is a predefined VSF requiring your expertise. Signing up as an ATV means you are saying: I have a specific gift, I am willing to be vetted for it, and I am ready to be called upon when it matters most.

If you have questions about the program, or if you wish to be connected with your specific neighborhood's NET Team Lead, please reach out to WoodlawnNET@gmail.com. Whether you are in Woodlawn, Concordia, or beyond, we are ready to help you get connected with your neighborhood's team leaders.



Ethan Jewett has been a member of Portland NET for 18 years. He is Co-Group Scoutmaster of the 55th

Cascadia and an ACA-certified river canoeing instructor and guide.