SOUTHWEST HILLS NET OPERATIONS PLAN
(Current as of January 2025)

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CONTACTS:

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Amateur radio operators:
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Advanced medical skills:
David Lewinsohn, MD, ACLS

Wilderness First Aid certified (PBEM):
Craig Zarling
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ASSEMBLY AREAS and BEECN SITE:

Assembly area 1: 1823 SW Spring Street - dead-end street above Ainsworth School (Tactical ID – SW Hills North.)
Assembly area 2: St. Thomas More 3525 SW Patton Road, south parking lot off of Greenleaf Drive. (Tactical ID – SW Hills South)

BEECN site #24: Ainsworth School Field SW Elm and SW 21st Ave

COMMUNICATIONS PROTOCOLS:

In order of availability, NETs should use the following:

1. Internet

   - Will be used by the city for specific information
   - Team WhatsApp

2. Landlines/Cell phones

   - To conserve bandwidth, texting preferred
   - Try to reach the team leader by landline/cell phones.

3. GMRS radios

   - While preparing to deploy, check in every hour at 15 minutes before and 15 minutes after the hour, as a safety check and to determine if you can pair with another team member to go to the deployment area.
   - During non-deployed events, such as power-outages/ice storms, if you have sufficient battery power, monitor the team channel in case a team member checks in off-schedule.

SW Hills NET's Primary GMRS Channel is Channel 17.

Simplex - Initially transmit on Channel 17
Repeater - This is on repeater Channel 17. Transmission needs to occur using a PL Tone of 100, but the repeater will be heard by all of those on Channel 17. For those with repeater capable radios, try this following an attempt to use simplex.

SW Hills NET secondary channel: Channel 15

FRS/GMRS channels for Portland NET teams are captured on the map linked here. (https://experience.arcgis.com/experience/b60507fbce994d49b441452afec724b9/page/Main-Page/) This map may be updated over time. Team members may wish to check it periodically.

NET team FRS/GMRS channels are also captured on the following link, with additional neighborhood information: https://pdx-net.maps.arcgis.com/apps/mapviewer/index.html?layers=6af29d86a7a54278a27ba113a7a1a87f

Neighboring NET FRS/GMRS channels:

Sylvan = Channel 2
Arlington Heights, Goose Hollow, Homestead (includes OHSU) = Channel 3
Bridlemile = Channel 4
Hillsdale = Channel 5

All NET members should:

- Have a GMRS radio with back-up batteries
- Know the SW Hills NET GMRS channel (Channel 17) and back-up channel (channel 15).
- Have tested "local" GMRS contacts, to know whom in your area you can reach, in order to send messages to an ARO (amateur radio operator) via a "daisy chain" or "spider net" (relaying messages from one GMRS radio to another, until the message reaches an ARO.)

EMERGENCY RESPONSE FOLLOWING A DISASTER:

Pre-Deployment

Following a disaster, NET members should make sure their own households are secure and they are able to deploy safely.

NETs should activate their own family emergency communications plan before deploying.

Initial Deployment

If a NET deployment order has been received, deploy, if possible.

If normal communications, such as landlines and cell-phones, have failed, NET members may self-deploy.

Deploy with your NET gear, NET ID, and Personal Protective Equipment (PPE).

Proceed to a deployment area in pairs, if possible. If pairs are not possible, attempt using your radio to confirm with another team member your departure time and anticipated arrival time at the assembly site.

NETs should proceed to either the closest assembly area or the assembly area best suited to each NET member's skills and capacities.

Note damage seen along the way, using NET Form 1 if possible. (Use radios to communicate concerns for personal safety; record damage on a written form.)

If NETs meet non-NET volunteers (Spontaneous Unaffiliated Volunteers/SUVs), bring them with you so that they can be identified as SUVs – and recorded on the SUV form – at the assembly site.

Assess Safety of Deployment Areas:
Upon arrival, assess the assembly area for safety. Do a 360 scene-size-up of the area for hazards such as downed power lines, gas leaks, fire, etc.

If the site clearly is unsafe, communicate that by radio and proceed to the second assembly site if possible.

Upon arrival at a site, look for markings from other team members. If there are none, you may be the first on scene. If a marking does exist and says "Site OK", add your initials and the date and time. If a marking exists saying "Site BAD," add your initials and the date and time.

Initial assignments

OPERATIONS
Incident Team Lead (ITL)
If you are first to reach an assembly area, fill the role of lead (or Incident Team Lead/ITL) to the extent possible. Pass this role to the team lead, if/when s/he arrives. The team lead then becomes the ITL.

SW Hills NET has only one team lead (TL). It may have two or more Incident Team Leads (ITL), one at each deployment site. If possible, each site will have an ARO and GMRS operator.

The guidelines below apply to each deployment site. Communications between the sites will be conducted by GMRS radio.

GMRS Team Operator
If there are sufficient personnel, the ITL – directly or through a designated team member – will designate a team member as the deployment site GMRS radio operator. See below, "Communications at the Deployment Areas."

Team ARO
The ITL – directly or through a designated team member – will assign a team Amateur Radio Operator (ARO) (more than one if needed for different deployment areas). See below, "Communications at the Deployment Areas."

Damage Assessment
The ITL – directly or through a designated team member – will collect damage assessment forms and record the presence of NET members. When possible, the ITL will designate a team member to coordinate assignments for the SUVs.

The ITL, directly or through a scribe, will develop situation reports and other critical information, which the ARO will transmit to the PBEM.

The ITL, directly or through a designated team member, will designate teams of at least two NET members each for specific assignments, such as search and rescue (SAR) or first aid. For search and rescue, the ITL – or a designated team member - will

- determine areas of the neighborhood to be searched,
- designate SAR teams of no fewer than two members each,
- assign each team a tactical ID for radio purposes (such as “Search Team 1”, “Search Team 2”, etc.) and
- ensure that each team is tracked with departure and anticipated return times.

The ITL – or a designated team member – will confirm a departure time for each team, a schedule of in-search check-ins, and confirmation of what information SAR teams should send by radio and what should be reported back by runner or in person.

COMMUNICATIONS AT THE DEPLOYMENT AREA(S):

The designated ARO will manage ham radio communications with other teams and the city. The Incident Team GMRS operator will coordinate communications with local team members and any other NET deployment sites, using GMRS, and with the ARO.

The ITL will determine the means of communication between the ITL and the ARO. This role may be filled by the ITL’s scribe, a runner, and/or a person with a GMRS radio.

The ARO, in coordination with the ITL, will establish communications with PBEM – directly or through regional “sub-net” radio operations.

If the team lead can do so, s/he will determine if each deployment site’s ARO will communicate with PBEM or if communications from the two (or more) deployment sites will be combined before being sent out of the neighborhood.

A check-in with the Multnomah County ARES resource net may also be advised. See below, “Additional Amateur Radio Information.”

The ITL will develop and pass to the ARO three basic categories of traffic, including

- Initial team check-in information,
- Urgent life safety reports, such as life-treat victims and/or high threat-level damage to infrastructure such as fires or major landslides, and
- Scene stabilization reports (events with a high risk of spreading)
- Situation reports.

The ARO, directly or with a designated team member, will keep a record of critical communications, including situation reports, and any communications involving personnel or equipment.

The ARO, time and equipment permitting, will attempt to establish contact with neighboring NET AROs

Scribes.
Ideally, both the TL /ITL and the ARO should have scribes. The ITL's scribe, in coordination with the ITL, will capture damage assessment, and other critical information, for an initial situation report, which the ARO will transmit to the city.

If there is only one scribe.

- If there is only one radio operator, who is ham licensed, s/he may initially handle both GMRS and ham radio traffic. The scribe will be assigned to this individual. The scribe may need to be prepared to be back-up for handling GMRS traffic among team members.
- If there are two radio operators, an ARO and a GMRS operator, the scribe should be assigned to the GMRS operator, unless otherwise indicated by the TL/ITL. The scribe will log for the GMRS operator and, in coordination with the GMRS operator, may liaise with the TL/ITL regarding messages transmitted by GMRS.

If there are two scribes, the TL/ITL will determine the assignment of the second scribe, with priority to the GMRS operator if possible.

If a third scribe is available, the ITL will determine her/his assignment, such as logging data on team personnel, SUVs, equipment, and other essential information.

FIRST AID/MEDICAL TREATMENT:
If personnel and equipment are available, NET members will set up either a First Aid Station or a Medical Treatment Area at either assembly area.

START triage should be used by team members during search and rescue.

If a Medical Treatment Area is established, patients in the treatment area should be re-triaged periodically.

Critical patient information should be conveyed to the TL/ITL (and on to the ARO) for tracking and communications with the city.

Due to limited resources, the team does not anticipate holding patients for extended periods of time at the assembly site.

KNOWN VULNERABILITIES AND VULNERABLE POPULATIONS:

Infrastructure:

Council Crest water tower
SW Greenway water tanks
SW Broadway water tank
Water tank on SW Marquam Hill Rd. - provides water to condos on SW Broadway Drive
Gas station at SW Patton, SW Humphrey, SW Dosch

Retaining walls along:

SW Vista Ave
SW Montgomery Drive
SW Broadway Drive
SW Greenway Ave overpass at SW Talbot Rd.
Vista Bridge (over Hwy 26; it connects King's Hill and Vista Ridge; the entire southern hillside is also referred to as Portland Heights.)
SW Dosch Rd
The Ainsworth School playing field

URMs:

Ainsworth School, SW Spring St & Vista Ave
Fire Station #15, 1920 SW Spring St
1928 SW Laurel St

Institutions:

St. Thomas More School (Approx. 125 students.)
Ainsworth School (URM) (Approx. 600 students.)
Also pedestrian bridge across gorge behind Ainsworth

Critical Access Roads:

SW Humphrey Blvd; SW Fairmount Blvd; SW Patton Rd; SW Vista Ave; SW Broadway Drive; SW Dosch Rd.

Vulnerable Secondary Roads:

SW Hewett Blvd; SW Greenway Drive; SW Greenleaf Drive

Extremely Narrow Neighborhood Roads:.

(Note – this list is a work in progress. The goal will be to group the narrow or otherwise challenging roads by sub-neighborhood, to aid damage assessment teams.)

SW Patton Court
SW Montgomery Place
SW Davenport St
SW Tangent St
SW Chelmsford Ave

SW Buckingham Ave
SW Hoffman Ave
SW Sheffield Ave
SW Cardinell Dr
SW Cardinell Way
SW Rivington Dr
SW Myrtle Dr where it intersects w/ SW. 15th Ave (which also is v. narrow) to SW Rivington
SW Myrtle Ct
SW Arthur Way
SW Helens Ct
SW Buenavista Dr
SW Alta Vista Pl
SW Hillcrest Dr
SW Corona Dr
SW Gerald Ave
SW Brae Mar Ct
SW 18th Dr
Others, TBD

ADDITIONAL AMATEUR RADIO INFORMATION:

Two simplex frequencies are reserved for PBEM NET use. They are commonly used for command and tactical communications with the Portland area wide sub-net control stations.

These frequencies are 147.580 and 146.460.

The simplex frequency 144.410 is reserved for the BEECN program.

- AROs should first check-in with the team as described above
- Be prepared to bring supplies (Battery / Antenna / Mobile Unit) if possible
- Start by checking into the county Resource Net using MC-2 (147.280, -0.6, PL 167.9). If the repeater does not appear to be working you would switch to MC-12 (147.280, simplex). Indicate you are already assigned to a NET team.
- At that point, you will be assigned to a sub-net, likely the River North or Westside simplex nets

VHF Frequency Table

			Channel in 2023 MCARES Template	
Region(s)	**Frequency**	**Name**	**Large "Standard"**	**Small "MHT"**
Alameda North & New Northeast	146.42 MHz	PNTC04	392	68
Alameda South	146.54 MHz	PNTC05	393	69
Columbia	145.62 MHz.	PNTC06	394	70
Outer East	145.53 MHz	PNTC08	396	72
River North	146.56 MHz	PNTC09	397	73
River South	145.79 MHz	PNTC10	398	74
Southeast	145.74 MHz	PNTC11	399	75
Westside	146.58 MHz	PNTC12	400	76

UHF Frequency Table

		Channels in 2023 MCARES Templates			
Description	**Alias**	**Large "Standard"**	**Small "MHT"**	**Frequency**	**Recommended Use By**
NET Team 2	PNTM02	402	102	431.400	Teams using FRS Ch. 2
NET Team 3	PNTM03	403	103	431.425	Teams using FRS Ch. 3

NET Team 4	PNTM04	404	104	431.450	Teams using FRS Ch. 4
NET Team 5	PNTM05	405	105	431.475	Teams using FRS Ch. 5
NET Team 6	PNTM06	406	106	431.500	Teams using FRS Ch. 6
NET Team 7	PNTM07	407	107	431.525	Teams using FRS Ch. 7
NET Team 8	PNTM08	408	108	431.550	Alameda North & New Northeast*
NET Team 9	PNTM09	409	109	431.575	Alameda South*
NET Team 10	PNTM10	410	110	431.600	Columbia*
NET Team 11	PNTM11	411	111	431.625	Outer East*
NET Team 12	PNTM12	412	112	431.650	River North*
NET Team 13	PNTM13	413	113	431.675	River South*
NET Team 14	PNTM14	414	114	431.700	Southeast*
NET Team 15	PNTM15	415	115	431.725	Teams using FRS Ch. 15
NET Team 16	PNTM16	416	116	431.750	Teams using FRS Ch. 16
NET Team 17	PNTM17	417	117	431.775	Teams using FRS Ch. 17
NET Team 18	PNTM18	418	118	431.800	Teams using FRS Ch. 18
NET Team 19	PNTM19	419	119	431.825	Westside*
NET Team 20	PNTM20	420	120	431.850	Backup for Alameda North, Alameda South, and New Northeast*
NET Team 21	PNTM21	421	121	431.875	Backup for Columbia, Outer East and River North*
NET Team 22	PNTM22	422	122	431.900	Backup for River South, Southeast and Westside*

* No teams appear to be currently using the corresponding FRS/GMRS channel so the 70-cm Amateur Radio frequency should be available for regional use during a deployment.

Large and Small refer to Standard and MHT 2023 Multnomah County ARES frequency templates -- See https://www.multnomahares.org/resources/frequency-lists-and-radio-programming-templates/