

DISASTER RESPONSE

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Introduction

Director of KITTCOM (Kittitas County 9-1-1)
Washington State TERT Coordinator

Volunteer

Washington State Guard
Coast Guard Auxiliary
Kittitas County ARES/RACES

Major Disasters

Deepwater Horizon
Refuge Stand Off
Various floods, wild fires, COVID

Education

MA in Emergency and Disaster
Management and MA in National
Security Studies



Overview

- Preparing for Disaster
- Working together at the incident



Understanding Your Worth

- Can set up a radio network quickly
- Have skills you use regularly that paid professionals do not
 - Programming
 - Maintenance of equipment
 - Deployment of mobile equipment
- We need your help!



Preparing for response

- Know your equipment
 - Ensure you know how to pack it
 - How long your battery will last
 - Remember your first go kit and how long it took to set up?
- Learn, learn, learn
 - Online classes
 - In person classes



Know Your Equipment



PRACTICE, PRACTICE, PRACTICE



Life Long Learning

- FEMA courses
- Local EM hosted courses and training
- Volunteer groups
- Community service
- Amateur radio
 - POTA
 - Field Day
 - Winter Field Day



Preparing – Work With Agencies

- Do not overpromise
- Do, in simple terms, explain what you can offer
- Go to meetings when invited
- Get to know agency personnel that you may see at an incident
- Understand their equipment



Train Together



The Basics

- Be on time
- Be prepared
- Ask questions when you do not know something
- Carry a notepad at all times
- Learn the geography of the incident



At The Incident

- STAY IN YOUR LANE
- Know who you report to
- Know what your specific job function is
- Dress appropriately
- Be polite and respectful
 - Both in voice and in action



BE AWARE OF YOUR SURROUNDINGS

- Incidents are dynamic
- People will do what they do



On The Air

- Keep transmissions accurate, brief
- No rag chewing
- Document, document, document
- Maintain ICS Form 214
 - For you
 - For your team/station



Conclusion

- YOU are a force multiplier
- YOU are leaving the hobby to aid professionals in a response
- YOU must be ready



Questions?



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