

Stake Emergency Communications Plan

“... if ye are prepared, ye shall not fear.” - Doctrine and Covenants 38:30

Purpose: To enable communications in the face of a communications emergency in order to be better able to serve and assist one another and our neighbors.

Approach: Establish multiple methods of communication so that communications may continue should one or more methods of communication (Telephone, Cell Phone, FRS/GMRS radio, Amateur Radio, by Foot or Vehicle) are disrupted.

Potential Communications Disruptions:

- Extended Loss of Power: Telephone network is designed for 8 hours of backup, Cellular services for 4 hours, battery life of Cell Phones.
- Network Congestion: Times of emergency can easily overload telephone and Cell phone services.
- Floods, Snow, Terrorist Activity: May prevent communications by Foot or Vehicle.

How the Stake Emergency Communications Plan Works:

The heart of the Stake Emergency Communications Plan is the Family. When you believe an emergency is in progress, initiate your Family Emergency Communications Plan (see information on Family Emergency Communications Plans). Do not wait to be contacted by others. Once your plan is engaged or you have done what you can, look for opportunities to help others, members and non-members alike. Forward pertinent information to your Home Teachers and Visiting Teachers. Pertinent information includes the extent of the emergency, any special needs, and who has been accounted for.

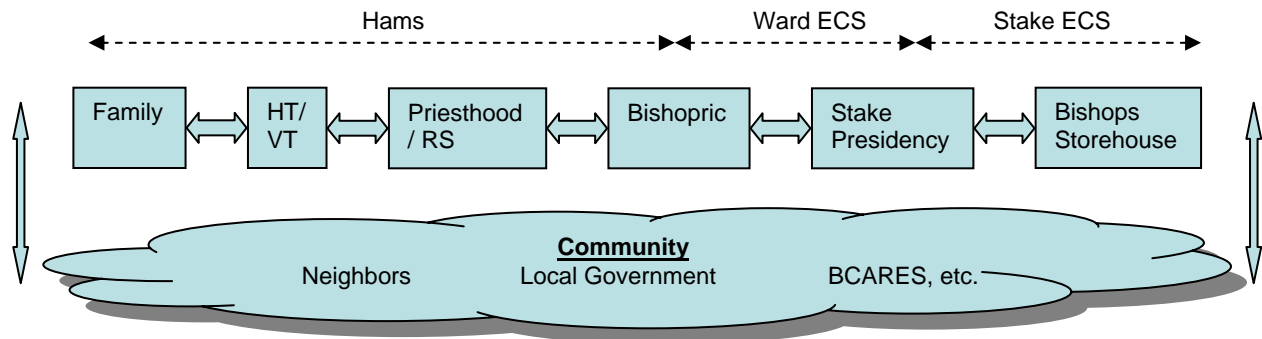
Contact the families that you Home Teach and Visit Teach and assess their needs. Perform the services you are able and contact your Priesthood and Relief Society leaders regarding pertinent information. The Priesthood and Relief Society will assist in coordinating resources to address needs and forward pertinent information to the Bishopric. The Bishopric will coordinate resources at their level and contact the Stake Presidency directly or through their Ward Emergency Communications Specialists. Likewise, the Stake will coordinate resources at their level and forward pertinent information to the Bishops Storehouse either directly or through the Stake Emergency Communications Specialists.

An emergency communications response may be triggered at any level in the hierarchy and propagate both up and down the hierarchy.

The role of emergency communications specialists is to facilitate the flow of information and to provide a backup communications network in the event that there is congestion or failure in traditional commercial communications networks.

All members are encouraged to facilitate communications and emergency assistance, and are encouraged to obtain a Technician Class or higher Amateur Radio license if so inclined. All Amateur radio operators are encouraged to turn on their Amateur Radios in the event of an emergency in order to facilitate communications and provide assistance. Amateur radio

operators initiate an emergency net and establish net control until an officially designated person such as a Ward or Stake Emergency Communications Specialist is able to join the net and assume net control. Weekly informal Sunday nets provide hands-on training and practice to accomplish this.



Emergency Communications Structure	Emergency Communications Specialists	Alternative Communications when commercial telecommunications services are unavailable
Family Communications Plan	Family	FRS Radio, GMRS Radio, Amateur Radio, by Foot or Vehicle
Home Teachers and Visiting Teachers	Ward Members	FRS Radio, GMRS Radio, Amateur Radio, by Foot or Vehicle
Ward Auxiliaries	Priesthood / Relief Society	FRS Radio, GMRS Radio, Amateur Radio, by Foot or Vehicle
Bishopric	Ward Emergency Communications Specialist	FRS Radio, GMRS Radio, Amateur Radio, by Foot or Vehicle
Stake Presidency	Stake Emergency Communications Specialist	Amateur Radio, by Foot or Vehicle
Denver Area Emergency Response Communications	Regional Emergency Communications Specialist	Amateur Radio
Church Headquarters		

Practice Your Emergency Communications Skills and Become Involved

Continuing Activities:

Activity	When	Radio Frequency	Who
<p>Family Emergency Communications Drill</p> <p><u>Purpose:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure all family members know what to do in an emergency • Ensure emergency information is current 	<p>Yearly: At least once a year and when major changes occur in schedules</p>	<p>TBD by Family</p>	<p>Every family</p>
<p>Louisville Hams Net</p> <p><u>Purpose:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maintain the net as a valuable emergency communication resource • Help new hams gain experience with their equipment • Train hams in proper net operating procedures • Promote fellowship and have fun! 	<p>Weekly: Every Sunday evening at 9pm</p>	<p>147.495 MHz FM simplex ,or 147.465 MHz 1st backup, 146.520 MHz 2nd backup</p>	<p>All Amateur Radio operators, both members and non-members, are invited to check in weekly</p>
<p>Denver ERC Net</p> <p><u>Purpose:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maintain the net as a valuable emergency communication resource 	<p>Monthly: 1st Sunday of every month at 8pm</p>	<p>147.495 MHz FM simplex ,or 147.465 MHz 1st backup, 146.520 MHz 2nd backup</p>	<p>Stake Emergency Communications Specialists for initial check-in. After initial check-in, all Amateur Radio operators are invited to check-in.</p>
<p>Amateur Radio Classes</p> <p><u>Purpose:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To prepare to pass the Technician Class FCC Exam for licensing 	<p>As Needed: Ask your Ward or Stake Emergency Communications Specialist or Check with the Boulder Amateur Radio Club (BARC)</p>	<p>NA</p>	<p>Anyone interested in Amateur Radio. Pre-requisite, a desire to become a licensed Amateur Radio Operator</p>
<p>Community Interaction</p> <p><u>Purpose:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To establish ties with community organizations associated with emergency communications such as the Boulder County Amateur Radio Emergency Services (BCARES) • To build skills and develop Amateur Radio as a hobby through clubs like the Boulder Amateur Radio Club (BARC) for adults, and BARC Jr. for ages 4-17 	<p>On-going: Monthly meetings for BARC, and weekly meetings and nets for BARC Jr. Ask your Emergency Communications Specialist for details</p>	<p>BARC Repeater 146.70MHz FM</p>	<p>Anyone interested in Amateur Radio. Pre-requisite, a desire to become a licensed Amateur Radio Operator</p>

Recommendations:

- Establish a family emergency communications plan (see information on family emergency communications plans).
- Establish multiple methods of emergency communications. Consider getting an Amateur Radio license to communicate 1-30 miles on 2-meter radios. FRS for 1-2 miles, GMRS (requires a license) for 1-5 miles.
- Establish communications battery backup capabilities (see information on backup power for emergency communications).
- Practice your family emergency communications plan, and become involved in communications nets and links to the community (see information on Amateur Radio).

Miscellaneous Information

Amateur Radio Links:

QRZ: www.qrz.com

Colorado Connection: www.colcon.org/index.html

Colorado Repeater Association: www.w0cra.org/

The Internet Radio Linking Project: www.irlp.net

BCARES: www.qsl.net/aresco-d11

FCC Links: <http://svartifoss2.fcc.gov/reports7/>

Rocky Mountain Radio League: www.rmrl.org/

BARC: www.qsl.net/w0dk

LARC: www.qsl.net/larc

Denver ERC: groups.yahoo.com/group/errs-denver/

ARRL: www.arrl.org

Ham Radio Outlet: www.hamradio.com

Amateur 2m Radio Signal Strength from Bishops Storehouse

