

**Welcome To The
Clark County
Search and Rescue
Program**

This is a basic introduction to the Search and Rescue Program in Clark County.

Clark County Sheriff Core Comp Rev. # 2018-1

Class Objectives

- **Class Agenda**
 - Search and Rescue Emergency Worker Core Competency Criteria – What is it?
 - A basic orientation to Search & Rescue in Clark County
 - Clark County SAR Mission
 - Local SAR Groups
 - Types of Missions You Can Expect
 - Common Missions Procedures
 - Conflict Resolution

**SAR Emergency Worker
Core Competency Criteria**

- The purpose of the document is to establish a standardized set of core competencies for Search and Rescue volunteers in Washington State.
- This document establishes a process for changes, modifications, and updates of the state core competency.
- It needs to be noted that core competencies are by their nature living documents and processes. This will require review and modifications as protocols as best practices change and are formally accepted.

County SAR Mission (cont.)

- Promote education of the public in wilderness and urban outdoor safety and recreation.
- Promote the education, deployment, and operational techniques needed for response to search and rescue operations and disaster operations.
- Promote the visibility of the teams and units to the citizens of Clark County..

Local SAR Groups

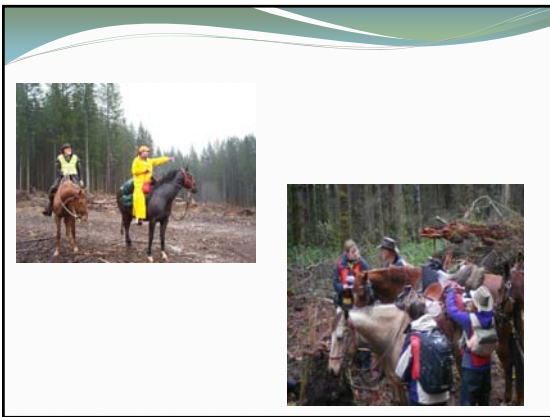
Just a sampling. Your group may or may not be listed

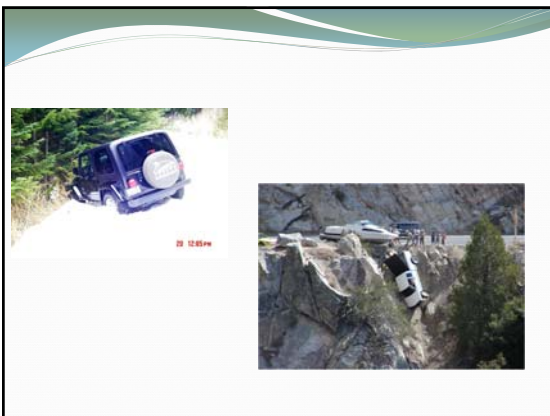
• Clark County Sheriff SAR	• Evergreen SAR (Dogs)
• Silver Star SAR	• Pacific Crest Search Dogs
• Pacific Northwest SAR	• Search Dogs Northwest
• Wind River SAR	• Clark County Dive Rescue
• Evergreen SAR	• Cowlitz County Dive Rescue
• Cowlitz County SAR	• SWORD Dive Team
• Multnomah County SAR	• Mountain Wave Communications
• SW Washington SAR	• North Oregon Regional SAR
• Volcano Rescue Team	• Clark County Mounted SAR

Types of Missions

- Missions vary depending on the year but generally there are about 10 callouts involving:
 - Searches for recreationalists on private and publicly managed forest land.
 - Urban searches for youth. Or elderly who may suffer from demented capacity.
 - Evidence searches as requested by law enforcement.
 - Public assistance during a major event such as flooding, wind storm or snow/ice event.
- Teams can also be requested by other counties for assistance through State DEM







Mission Start-up

- The Clark County Sheriff's Office determines the need for a mission.
- Clark County Department of Emergency Management (DEM) is contacted for needed resources by Sheriff's coordinator. (IC)
- Every mission must have a mission number which is obtained by CRESA prior to utilizing resources on a mission.


*This is for your benefit as a volunteer. Washington State covers property damage/loss or injury and fuel expense for state recognized missions. This benefit has limitations. Your iPhone will not be replaced because you tripped over a log taking a selfie.

- Response to Out-of-County calls must go through proper channels.

Mission Check-In

- Mission check-in needs to indicate name of Group Leader.
- Group Supervisor or Team Liaison should let check-in know team composition (who is filling various roles).
- Units should be supervised as needed to meet Span of Control requirements: **Don't get too excited about these cool names. You will probably be "team 1, team 2 etc...."**
 - Strike Team/Task Force Leader (if needed);
 - Team Leader/Squad Boss (if needed); and
 - STL & TFL Positions should be filled by qualified individuals.
- Sign-in sheet. Each responding unit needs to submit a DEM-078 or sign in on the mission DEM-078 as they arrive. **PRINT LEGIBLY! TIME IN AND OUT ROUNDED TO THE NEAREST HALF HOUR.**

Initial Briefing



- The I/C will handle the initial Briefing
 - Briefings include:
 - Who, What, Why, When, and Where Information
 - Weather and Brief History of Search
 - Mission Execution
 - Communications/ map datum
 - Safety concerns


Briefing Checklist

- **Situation:**
 - Incident Name and Number
 - Description of Situation
 - Weather for the next 24-hours
- **Mission Execution:**
 - Command Structure
 - Overall Strategies
 - Tactical Group Assignments
 - Logistics & Transportation
 - Medical Plan
 - Contingency Plan
- **Communications**
 - Command Frequency
 - Group/Division Frequencies
 - Air Frequency (if applicable)
 - Cell Phone Numbers
- **Safety:**
 - Identify Known Risks & Hazards
 - You will always have the ability to address questions or concerns

SAR Team Professionalism

- Appropriate Conduct:
 - Be cautious of what you say (*Family members and media can show up around base and sometimes in the field*);
 - Maintain a professional attitude.
- If approached by the media, refer them to the ICP
 - Cooperate during media field visits. You don't have to ignore or say "no comment" and walk away. Just politely tell them you can't comment on the circumstances and direct them to the I/C.
- Use proper code in the event of a deceased subject
 - Teams should have their own if the mission does not provide one during briefing. (STAR is common for us)
 - Sierra Tango Alpha Romeo – volunteer to explain?

Resource Deployment



- Get initial briefing from Group Supervisor/Team leader.
- Review overall strategies
- While awaiting assignment, prepare teams for field deployment. *Be patient. It sometimes takes I/C time to get everything organized in preparation for the search.
- Prepare the equipment you need to carry for safety and subject stabilization.
- Pick up subject info and assignment sheet(s) as they become available.


Once Assignment Is Given

- Group Supervisor/TL Review assignment with Operations.
- Teams are briefed.
- Teams should be sure assignment is understood
- Logistic arrangements made as needed for deployment.
- When a team deploys, let I/C know you have started an assignment.

While On An Assignment

- Maintain good field communications.
- Team safety is always first. Avoid and report any hazards.
- Always keep track of team locations.
- Keep an activity log and map areas searched, location of and type(s) of clues. *Clear your GPS before you deploy into the field
- Track your time assignments are started and completed.
- Also log any subsequent assignments (even if you just do so in a notebook).
- When possible, debrief teams between assignments (collect old assignment sheets and pass out new ones).
- Turn search unit logs in before leaving mission or as requested by IC General Staff.

Subject Find!!



- Assess Subject Condition.
- Stabilize & provide First Aid as needed. Get additional medical staff if necessary.
- Keep supervisor informed of status (keep I/C informed)
- Determine location.
- Order evacuation assistance and support as needed.
- Let supervisor know when evacuation has started.

Required Paperwork

- Remember – If it isn't documented, it didn't happen.
- Things to document:
 - DEM-078 (sign-in form)
 - Assignment Sheet Logs (keep a unit copy)
- Copies of all mission related records should be forwarded to I/C for mission documentation.

Debrief and Demobilization

- I/C determines mission termination and/or resource release based on:
 - Subject Find;
 - Mission Suspension
 - Resource Availability.
- Group/Division Supervisors (T/L) responsible for returning all resources to ICP (*if assistance from other teams is needed work through Logistics*).
- Once accounted for, there should be some type of debrief (*if not post operation then scheduled after the event*).
- Team Radio Logs and completed assignment sheets should be turned in to plans before demobilization.
- Leave when team has been demobed by IC or Planning Section, (*be sure paperwork is turned in*).
- *Make sure you Sign-OUT. We don't want to have to call your home, bar or "friend's house" to find you!*

Out-Of-County Deployments

- Upon dispatch:
 - Teams conduct a callout to determine if the requested unit(s) can respond;
 - Callout of team members continues until the desired number of resources have agreed to respond.
 - *It is important that we don't get more people than requested. It affects span of control and limits the numbers of volunteers for the next operational period if required.*
 - One team member from each group contacts DEM with number of responders, departure time, and ETA to search base before leaving county.

Out-Of-County (Post Mission)

- Units should re-contact DEM upon return and give a time when unit will again be available (*if arrival time is later than 2100 hours, wait until morning*).
- Submit a copy of Group Leader mission and unit radio logs to SAR duty coordinator.
- If other data such as maps or assignments were kept, it would be nice to receive a copy for Council deployment records.
- Also include a copy of the mission sign-in sheet (DEM-078).

CONFLICT RESOLUTION

This is a basic Conflict Resolution training for all new SAR teams, units, and organizations as part of the Core Competency Training.



Managing Your Anger

- **STOP** – recognize the trigger. Acknowledge your feelings.
 - Calm your body (take a deep breath, count to 10)
- **THINK** about what to do.
 - Stay, leave, or ignore
- **TALK/PLAN**
 - Talk to the person or someone you trust.
 - Develop a plan to do something different.
- **FEEL BETTER**
 - Get rid of the anger that's left (do something you enjoy, do a relaxation exercise, etc.).

What Upset Individuals Want:

- To be taken seriously;
- To be treated with respect;
- To get immediate action;
- To gain compensation/restitution;
- To have the person who wronged them reprimanded;
- To clear up the problem so it doesn't reoccur;
- To be listened to.

Understanding the Problem

- Clear your head and listen:
 - In order to help, you need to be able to understand the problem.
 - Ask questions if needed.
 - Rephrase the response to be sure all involved understands.

Active Listening Goals

An active listener should keep these goals in mind:

- Understand thoroughly what the speaker is communicating.
- Assure the speaker that you understand.
- Be aware of verbal and nonverbal messages.

Working Toward A Resolution

- Acknowledge their Feelings:
 - Talk about how they are feeling,
 - Do not say right/wrong, just acknowledge;
- Find out what they expect you to do;
- Only now are you ready to tell them what you can or cannot do.

Open-ended Questions

- Open-ended questions usually begin with what or how. They cannot be answered with yes or no.
 - Broadening questions.
 - Clarifying questions.
 - Explaining questions.
 - Exploring questions.
 - Brainstorming questions.

Other Things to Ponder

- You need to remain calm,
 - if you can't, excuse yourself for a moment and come back after regaining your composure.
- If the party is swearing or yelling at you:
 - Stay calm and let them know you want to help, but that they need to calm down so you can discuss the matter.
 - Refer them to the on-site deputy.

Summary

- During this session you have been exposed to:
 - Core Competency
 - Orientation to Search and Rescue
 - Basics of the County SAR Mission
 - Learned about the different SAR Groups in our county
 - Type of missions you can expect
 - Common Mission Procedures
 - Conflict Resolution
 - Questions?
