

S.A.F.E. Neighborhoods Modules Introduction

Welcome everyone to our S.A.F.E. Neighborhoods Disaster Response Plan Volunteer Training Program. Ever wonder what to do when a disaster strikes? This training program addresses that question.

My name is T. Mike Smith. I have previously served as a Salt Lake City area volunteer in CERT, Ham radio communications, Mobile Watch and participated in the development of the S.A.F.E. Neighborhoods (SN) Disaster Response Plan.

My wife Susan and I are the volunteer developers of the S.A.F.E. Neighborhoods Training Program you can begin to experience here, today. Although we are now retired winter Snowbirds and summer Travelbirds living outside of SLC much of the year, when in SLC we continue as current *Ambassadors-At-Large* for the plan and this SN training program. The program coordinates with Salt Lake City Emergency Management (SLCEM), the Salt Lake Crossroads Amateur Radio Club (SLCARC), available CERTS and other interested citizens to develop our volunteer response skills in the event of a disaster.

To give proper and coordinated form to the spontaneous volunteer disaster response that would naturally occur after a disaster, our city and county EM leaders developed the S.A.F.E. Neighborhood Disaster Response Plan. As we are able, Susan, myself, Salt Lake Crossroads Amateur Radio Club (SLCARC) and Salt Lake City EM provide training in the volunteer response aspects of this Salt Lake City/Salt Lake County disaster response plan. Several of the six PowerPoint modules are presently offered on this SLCARC website (SLCARC.org) in their PDF slide presentation form. Some have been given previously as Power Point presentations, and may be offered latter in video form in the future. Other related field and table-top trainings are offered by SLCARC, as able.

As mentioned elsewhere on this website (SN Gen button –"The S.AF.E. Neighborhoods Ambassadors Training Program), the training Program consists of 6 modules and various field table-top, drill and exercise activities. The program consists of a combination of individual and group training experiences. The second module, The Basics, overviews Salt Lake City's Disaster Volunteer Response Plan. Anyone who may find themselves in Salt Lake City when a disaster strikes, should review this Basics module. Such training can save lives in a disaster. However, as disaster and emergency response is rooted in our individual personal preparedness, we begin with Module 1, Personal and Family Preparedness. Please read over and study the modules presented here and then, participate as able with SLCARC in periodic field activities.

The SN Training Program seeks to provide a Basics orientation for everyone and then recruit and train Local Volunteer Ambassadors to levels of proficiency explained in the SN Ambassadors Training Program sheet found under the SN Gen button. Once trained, these Local Ambassadors are able to help others in their neighborhood train, as able, in the response plan. In the event of a disaster, these Local Ambassadors become key resource individuals within your neighborhoods. Please become a Local Ambassador for your neighborhood.

For those who wish to train beyond the Local Ambassador level, additional activities are offered, as mentioned in the Ambassadors Training Sheet.

Remember, Be Safe, as you train or respond for you are responsible for you. In CERT we were all taught that our safety comes first. Dealing with dangerous situations is very difficult. So, practice safely, and practice within your neighborhood to build your skill and confidence.