Ward & Stake EMCOMM Plans

EMCOMM Conference March 17, 2012

Preparation & Resources

- Look at www.providentliving.org for guideline help (follow the link "Becoming Self-Reliant" – then "Emergency Preparedness").
- Interview your Bishop/Stake President or Counselor over emergency communication to determine their expectations.
- Review your current ward/stake plan if it exists.
- Every ward/stake presents different communication challenges. Look over the topology of your area to determine what might work for you.
    - Google Earth is a great tool for looking at terrain.
    - Visit areas in question and test radio propagation.
- Ward maps on www.LDS.org (sign in using LDS account) shows where all members live in your ward.

Creating/Developing the plan

- Keep the core plan as short and simple as possible. Usually when disaster strikes, lengthy plans get tossed aside.
- Avoid complicated procedures and flow charts that will be hard to follow in a stressful situation.
- Single page contact charts that can be copied and kept with you at all times can come in very handy. These contact charts would include names, phone numbers, call signs, radio frequencies and general contact info.
- Make the core plan so that it can be easily emailed to your ward/stake councils.
- Include ward lists and reports in your plan as attachments to your main plan. These separate reports can be printed and dropped in to update your plan without changing your written core plan.
- Many details can be left out of your plan if you implement them in your ongoing practice and training.

Additional ideas

- Share your ward plan among the other wards in your stake. It is a work in process and can always be developed and improved.
- Weekly nets as a stake that involve simplex frequencies can uncover areas that need improvement.
- Give all ham operators an opportunity to be net control.
- Be sure your ham operators are familiar with how your plan will operate. You can organize training on a ward or stake level to help them.