

# City of Bellevue Emergency Communications Volunteers

The Eastside Amateur Radio Support (EARS) team is an energetic, dedicated group of approximately 50 volunteer amateur radio operators in the greater Eastside area. The group provides auxiliary communications support to Bellevue and agencies served by Bellevue's 911 Communications Center during a disaster or emergency.

Members have the opportunity to participate in a range of activities that include quarterly communications drills, a variety of tours and training in incident command system protocol, first aid, cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR), digital communication technologies, and radio protocol.

Most members work to gain their FCC amateur radio licenses to be able to operate communications equipment. This normally takes just a basic understanding of electronics and a weekend to study and pass a test. For more information, see:

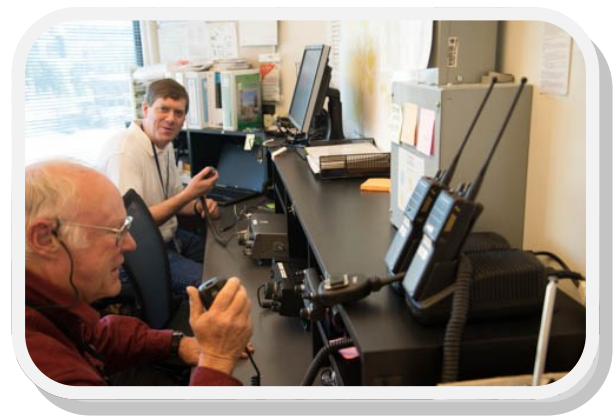
<http://www.arrl.org/getting-your-technician-license>

Members operate a variety of city owned radio equipment and some members provide their own equipment to be able to help out in a disaster.

In addition to traditional voice communications support, the groups works to implement network and email technologies to provide advanced communications support in the event of a disaster.

The group's primary principles are to:

- Serve as a community communicator
- Respect the confidentiality of all communications
- Respect the structure and command and control nature of the organization that we serve
- Demonstrate cooperation and collaboration



If you are interested in becoming an emergency communications volunteer for the City of Bellevue contact:

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