

Don't be alone in a disaster.



Zongas NET

We can help organize
your neighborhood so you
can help each other.

PC-NET

Pierce County Neighborhood Emergency Teams

Neighborhood Emergency Teams know what to do.



Sterling Heights NET

Why should my neighborhood do this?

We've all seen news reports of people being on their own (without outside emergency assistance) for up to a week or even more after a major disaster. Being part of an emergency team gives people the knowledge and tools to be able to take care of each other until help arrives. This improves everyone's odds of surviving. And it's free.

What are Neighborhood Emergency Teams?

They're made up of neighbors in Pierce County who have come together to organize and respond to emergencies and disasters in their own neighborhoods.

How do I find out if PC-NET fits my neighborhood?

Invite neighbors into your home or community center to learn about northwest hazards and what you can do to help each other get through a disaster. The group then decides if PC-NET is a fit.

How does a neighborhood organize an emergency team?

We explain the eight roles that make up the neighborhood team. Residents then choose which team they want to be on.

You'll also receive a basic personal response kit that includes a handbook, helmet and vest. Then we'll walk you through the steps to be ready to respond as a team (*see back*).

How do you define the size of a neighborhood?

It's really up to you and your neighbors. We suggest no more than 20-30 homes in your area. But, it can be as small as a single block, a cul-de-sac, apartment building, condominium complex or independent living facility.

Does it take anything special to be on an emergency team?

No. We've taught everyone from teenagers to seniors. Almost anyone can help in a neighborhood response.

How much time does this take?

Each meeting is 1½ – 2 hours. You decide how many meetings you want to attend. It's also up to your neighborhood group to decide when is best to hold each meeting.

Does everyone need to attend all the meetings?

It is helpful, but if you miss a meeting, information can be passed on by those attending. It's also okay for neighbors to join the team throughout the process or even afterwards.

How do I get my neighborhood started?

Call us to set up a date and time you'd like one of our PC-NET educators to make a presentation. The meeting can be in your home or at a local meeting room (*such as libraries or churches*).

Be informed and prepared. Give us a call today at 253-798-6595 and ask for a PC-NET educator. We look forward to meeting you and your neighbors.





What roles are there to play in a typical Neighborhood Emergency Team?

You can be the leader of a team or you can provide team support. Here are the team roles:

Neighborhood Coordinator - makes sure tasks are being handled, then reports what's happening to emergency operation centers or local first responders.

Safety and Security Team - shuts off neighborhood gas, water and electricity, ropes off hazardous areas and coordinates evacuations when necessary.

Search and Rescue Team - checks homes to see who needs help, gives aid to anyone seriously injured and rescues those trapped.

First Aid Team - maintains first aid station, provides basic first aid for minor injuries and monitors those with serious injuries.

Sheltering and Special Needs Team - sets up an area where people can gather and feel safe. Prior to a disaster becomes familiar with those who will need special assistance.

Communications Team - coordinates the gathering of information from team members and monitors local media for news about what has happened to share with everyone.

Damage Assessment Team - documents and photographs neighborhood damage for emergency agencies and insurance.

Pet Care Team - gathers information that will make it possible to take care of pets if their owners are unable to care for them.



For information on PC-NET and preparing for disasters:
Pierce County Department of Emergency Management
www.piercecountywa.org/PCNET
253-798-6595