

CENET

Community Emergency Network (Pronounced “See Net”)

What it is:

- **A survivable, flexible communications network for the public and others to use when the normal infrastructure is disabled or overloaded.**
- **A two-way radio system to provide that vital connection to a Public Safety Answering Point (PSAP) for those in need of emergency help.**
- **Locally controlled and modified, as needed.**

What it is Not:

- **A replacement for the normal 9-1-1 connection to a Public Safety Answering Point (PSAP), when available.**
- **A substitute for current Ham radio groups (ARES, RACES) that provide backup communications for public safety and emergency management.**

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Additional Information

How It Works:

- **Using a cooperative effort between various organizations, including licensed Ham and GMRS radio operators when cell phone, internet and other systems are not available.**
- **When telephone systems are not available, emergency calls are relayed from the public to a 9-1-1 Public Safety Answering Point (PSAP).**
- **Minimum training available for Emergency Radio Operators (EROs). Many are dual-licensed. (Ham and GMRS.)**
- **The coordinated program may involve such organizations such as public safety, emergency management, AUXCOMM, Red Cross, CERT, ARES, RACES, REACT and others.**
- **Exercises have demonstrated that CENET works.**

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Additional Information

Technical Needs:

- **Ham or GMRS station installed at a local Emergency Operations Center (EOC) or PSAP. Dual licensed operators (Ham/GMRS) used.**
- **Relay / Monitoring stations use Ham radio and GMRS radio equipment to receive emergency messages on pre-determined frequencies. (Example: GMRS 462.675 MHz or Ham 146.520 MHz.) Then, relay those messages to a net control station or directly to the EOC / PSAP.**
- **Relay / Monitoring stations also use radio equipment with tone-scan function to quickly determine tone-codes of callers and make contact.**

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Important Note

Radio watch programs, such as CENET, are not a replacement for normal emergency communication resources. When available, the public should use 9-1-1 or police/fire/sheriff's office/highway patrol non-emergency numbers. These programs are intended solely as a backup communications solution when normal systems fail or are overloaded.

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