

## **RADIO AMATEUR CIVIL EMERGENCY SERVICES (RACES)**

[www.NorthShoreEMC.com](http://www.NorthShoreEMC.com)

The Northshore Emergency Management Coalition (NEMCo) is a partnership among the cities of Kenmore and Lake Forest Park, the Northshore Fire Department, and the Northshore Utility District. Its purpose is to maximize each of the participating agencies emergency preparedness efforts and resources to efficiently serve our community. NEMCo's focus is to engage the whole community to prevent, protect against, mitigate, respond to, and recover from all types of emergencies and disasters through education and volunteer coordination. NEMCo provides a number of emergency preparedness training opportunities throughout the year for those interested in volunteering or for those who just want to be better prepared at home.

NEMCo volunteers consist of Federal Communications Commission (FCC) licensed members of the Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Service (RACES), Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) members, and community volunteers. While each group has their own meetings, requirements, and training, they often coordinate to assist in community events and preparedness activities. The intent is to prepare our citizens to help each other and obtain assistance in the event of an emergency.

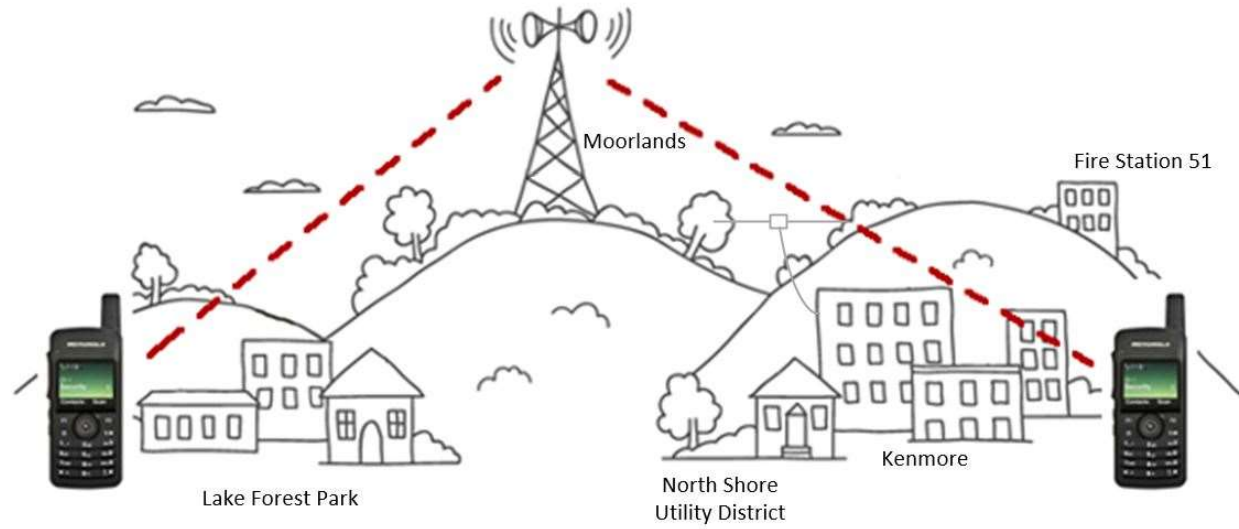
RACES consists of amateur radio (ham) operators who may be activated in emergency situations to provide radio communications. They are governed by the rules and regulations (Part 97) of the Federal Communications Commission.

RACES members train, develop, and refine their skills in a variety of ways:

- **Weekly.** NEMCo conducts a resource net where a net control operator initiates a roll call of members and guests. The purpose of the net is to practice radio communications, make announcements, provide training, and conduct drills. In the event of an emergency, the resource net frequency will be used to determine volunteer availability and make assignments.
- **Monthly.** Meetings are used to provide information, announcements, mini-training workshops, and discussions of interest to participants.
- **Monthly.** Checks of the four Emergency Operations Centers (EOCs) test the gear and initiate contact between the EOCs using voice and packet radio.
- **Biannually.** NEMCo participates in state-wide exercises known as "Fifth Saturday Drills" where EOCs around the state contact each other via radio.
- **Periodically.** RACES members may be deployed as the communications component of a Community Emergency Response Team. CERT members participate in a variety of activities including damage assessment, urban search and rescue, and shelter operations.
- **Periodically.** RACES members provide communications assistance for community events such as fun runs organized by the Cities and/or various charities.



This simplified schematic represents the current Emergency Operation Centers and infrastructure of the Northshore Emergency Management Coalition. Amateur radio operators are essential in providing this communications capability.



### Amateur Radio Phonetic Alphabet

<b>A</b>	Alpha	<b>N</b>	November
<b>B</b>	Bravo	<b>O</b>	Oscar
<b>C</b>	Charlie	<b>P</b>	Papa
<b>D</b>	Delta	<b>Q</b>	Quebec
<b>E</b>	Echo	<b>R</b>	Romeo
<b>F</b>	Foxtrot	<b>S</b>	Sierra
<b>G</b>	Golf	<b>T</b>	Tango
<b>H</b>	Hotel	<b>U</b>	Uniform
<b>I</b>	India	<b>V</b>	Victor
<b>J</b>	Juliet	<b>W</b>	Whiskey
<b>K</b>	Kilo	<b>X</b>	X-ray
<b>L</b>	Lima	<b>Y</b>	Yankee
<b>M</b>	Mike	<b>Z</b>	Zulu

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