

COLCON Emergency Response Manual
by
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Contents

1. NO ANNOUNCEMENT REQUESTED WHEN MONITORING	1
2. ANSWERING AN AMATEUR RADIO OPERATOR'S CALL FOR HELP	1
3. KEEP CALM, BE POLITE, AND BE THOROUGHLY ACCURATE	3
4. CALLING 9-1-1 IN ANOTHER COUNTY	4
5. DETERMINING HOW TO RESPOND TO A CALL FOR HELP	6
6. USING THE PSAP DIRECTORY	7
7. REPEATER TIME-OUT	7
8. ALWAYS COMMUNICATE EMERGENCIES TO 9-1-1	7
9. ILLEGAL COMMUNICATIONS	8
10. AMBER ALERTS, WEATHER WARNINGS, FIRE ANNOUNCEMENTS	8
11. FAKE EMERGENCY CALLS	9
12. CALLER REQUESTS EMERGENCY ADVICE	9
13. CALLER REQUESTS NON-EMERGENCY ADVICE	10
14. ORGANIZING AND OPERATING FOR EMERGENCY RESPONSE	10
14.1 Organizing Your Operating Position	10
14.2. Radio Checks	11
14.3. After-Action Reporting	12
15. NETS & NET CONTROL	12
15.1 Evening CERN Net	12
15.2 COLCON Recurring Nets	13
15.3. Emergency During Amateur Nets	13
16. IN CLOSING	13

COLCON Emergency Response Manual

Guidelines for Providing Emergency Response

by
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Thank-you for volunteering as a COLCON monitor! Your time is much appreciated even if you do not hear an emergency call while monitoring. However, because you are monitoring and willing to step up to answer a call for help, those who work, play and travel through the remote areas of our state have an additional layer of safety.

If an emergency occurs, the time you spend answering the call and carefully gathering and relaying critical information to 9-1-1 can make the difference between life and death.

COLON has a long history of promoting and supporting emergency response. In 2016, Sydney Cleveland, KE0GNS (SK, 2018), Syd, conceived, founded, organized, and established the Colorado Emergency Reporting Network (CERN) on behalf of all who enjoy the Colorado outdoors.

By 2019, with growth, formalization, and growing membership, the Colorado Connection, Inc (COLCON) officially adopted and sponsored CERN.

At the end of 2026, with growing cell phone coverage across Colorado and fewer calls for emergency assistance on the network, COLCON absorbed the assets of CERN and now provides these services organically. All users of the COLCON system are encouraged to monitor and be ready to respond to a request for emergency assistance. This manual provides guidelines and best operating practices should you encounter such a call for help. Additionally, look for helpful operating aids on the COLCON website to support your ability to provide effective support for anyone in need.

The following are some operating advisories, policies, and procedures that will help you to render aid.

1. NO ANNOUNCEMENT REQUESTED WHEN MONITORING

Please do not announce that you are monitoring for emergency calls for help. That formality is no longer appropriate.

Please DO announce your presence on COLCON if you so desire - as you might any time you become active and ready to engage in a QSO.

2. ANSWERING AN AMATEUR RADIO OPERATOR'S CALL FOR HELP

Hearing *Mayday!* on the air is jarring and really cuts through any concentration you may have on another task! When it happens, keep in mind a couple of points:

1) You become the control operator and have an important role in managing the channel. You need to provide structure and control so that information can flow efficiently between you and all other actors in the incident;

2) **Be clear, assertive, unequivocal, directive, specific, and comprehensive in all that you say and do.** There can be no question about what you want, when you want it, who is to act, and how a tasking is to be done;

3) Remember that the primary objective is to *Gather the facts. Relay to 9-1-1*. Focus on the essential elements of information needed by 9-1-1 for the type of incident you are reporting. Refer to the COLCON Standard Emergency Checklist document for identification of essential elements of information for the type of emergency assistance requested. These will be answers to questions the 9-1-1 dispatcher will ask you.

4) You will no doubt find that there are other capable operators on the air when an incident arises. Use any who wish to help to the advantage of the person in distress. There is much to do - but you don't have to solve each problem yourself — **DELEGATE** liberally! Inventory who is on the channel and delegate creating and maintaining a timeline of the incident to someone. Perhaps ask another to determine GPS coordinates if the caller can't provide more than a verbal description of the location. When delegating, make sure the person to do the work is clearly identified by callsign. Provide specific needs to be addressed. Indicate when and how you want follow up to the task. and turn your attention to the next issue.

Remember that your role is to control the channel, gather essential information, and establish a link with 9-1-1.

5) Be conscientious to provide your call sign with each transmission, and be clear to anyone listening or arriving mid-incident that an emergency is in progress and that you are managing the channel as Net Control.

6) When the 9-1-1 dispatcher answers your call - relay information with a controlled and normal cadence in your voice and diction. Say:

This is [your name], Amateur Radio call sign [your call] reporting an emergency on behalf of [Caller's Name]. The nature of the emergency is [incident] at [location] and they request [type of assistance].

7) Follow the lead of the 9-1-1 dispatcher and provide the information they request. **Do not terminate the call with 9-1-1 until the dispatcher dismisses you.** Be sure the dispatcher has your contact information, as they may need to call you back to provide status, direction, or to acquire additional information.

Here is a scenario that will give a basic response along with hints on how to address an

incident:

Ham Caller: *I want to report an emergency! Is anyone listening on this frequency?*

You: *This is (your Call Sign) (your Name). I am monitoring this frequency -- How may I help you?*

Ham Caller: *I just saw a car hit an elk on Hwy 24. It looks like the driver is really badly injured. I'm trying to find a place so I can turn around and go back to help him.*

You: *QSL Can you call 9-1-1?*

Ham Caller: *I have NO signal out here.*

You: *OK, I'll need some information so I can call 9-1-1 for you.*

What is is Your Name? ... Your Call Sign? ... What is your phone number? (You can surmise the assistance needed: police/sheriff and ambulance)

What direction are you traveling? (N, S, E, W) Do you know what mile post the accident is near on Highway 24? (If caller doesn't know, ask what town, landmark, etc is close by, then use the Cities with Their Counties look-up document to determine the County where the accident occurred. See Item #4 below.).

Is just one vehicle involved in the accident? ... Is anyone else injured beside the driver? ... Do you know if anyone is deceased? Is there anything else you want 9-1-1 to know? (Write down the facts)

Thank you, I'm dialing 9-1-1 right now, please stay on this frequency in case 9-1-1 needs to speak with you. If we should temporarily lose radio communication, I will call you back, so keep your radio on and tuned to this frequency.

Be sure to keep in radio contact with the caller, as needed, until help arrives. Refer to the Standardized Emergency Report form so you will know what questions to ask. After speaking with 9-1-1 assure the ham caller that you have relayed the information to 9-1-1 and that emergency responders have been activated. Then thank the caller for making the report.

Keep the scope of emergency response in mind: **gather facts and report them to 9-1-1**. Resist the urge to provide medical, rescue, or law enforcement advice – leave that to the 9-1-1 professionals.

3. KEEP CALM, BE POLITE, AND BE THOROUGHLY ACCURATE

Remember that in a genuine emergency approximately 80% of people either freeze or panic. So it is essential when speaking with callers and relaying information to 9-1-1 to **keep calm, be polite and be thoroughly accurate**. Whether talking with the on-scene

reporter or other amateur radio operators helping you with an incident — **be clear, assertive, unequivocal, and directive.**

The 9-1-1 operator will be recording your telephone call so that no information is lost. If you do not understand something that is said by either the amateur radio caller or 9-1-1 operator, ask them to repeat or clarify.

In responding to an emergency call in a remote wilderness area in Colorado, it is possible for Search and Rescue to take six hours or more just to hike to the caller's location. In large rural counties with small populations, Sheriff's deputies, fire, ambulance and other responders may take up to 45 minutes to arrive. So taking an extra minute or two with the ham radio caller to make sure you have accurately gathered essential information and relayed to 9-1-1 will not significantly change the amount of time it takes for help to arrive. Getting a critical piece of information wrong can significantly delay or prevent help from arriving at all. Keep in mind that Search and Rescue personnel — like most other emergency responders — are focused on saving people's lives; they do not extract and tow disabled vehicles. (Advise the caller might contact Colorado 4x4 Rescue for such services. Refer to the Operating Aids and the COLCON Handy Weblinks document.)

4. CALLING 9-1-1 IN ANOTHER COUNTY

Because Colorado Connection Repeaters cover the entire State of Colorado, it is likely that you could receive a call for help from an amateur radio operator in a county or city that is hundreds of miles from your location. So it is important to understand that 9-1-1 communications centers in Colorado are county-based and have jurisdiction only for the county in which they are located.

For example, you might live in the city of Longmont in Weld County and receive a call for help from someone saying he is near the city of Cortez. Refer to the *Cities with Their Counties* look-up document. Find *Cortez* and note that Cortez is in *Montezuma County*.

In this example, when you dial 9-1-1 to report the emergency, you will reach the 9-1-1 dispatcher located in Weld County (where you are located). Explain to your 9-1-1 operator that the call for help originates from Cortez, Montezuma County and ask to be transferred to the Montezuma County 9-1-1 operator. Your operator will likely do one of three things:

- 1) Directly transfer your call to the 9-1-1 operator in Montezuma County; or if the call cannot be transferred,
- 2) Give you the direct telephone number for the 9-1-1 operator in Montezuma County – which you will then have to dial yourself. Once you are in contact with the 9-1-1 operator in Montezuma County, proceed to report the caller's emergency information, when asked by the dispatcher.
- 3) For various reasons the Weld County 9-1-1 dispatcher can't or won't do any more than terminate your call.

An example of the conversation to transfer to a 9-1-1 operator in another County might go like this:

Weld County 9-1-1 Operator: *This is 9-1-1. What is your emergency?*

You: *My name is John Doe, and my call sign is KC0EP. I have received a radio call for emergency help from an amateur radio operator near the city of Cortez in Montezuma County. Could you please transfer me to the 9-1-1 operator in Montezuma County?*

Weld County 9-1-1 Operator: *You're saying the emergency is in Montezuma County?*

You: *Correct. Can you transfer me to the 9-1-1 operator in Montezuma County, please?*

Weld County 9-1-1 Operator: *Just a minute while I look that up.*

At this point, if your 9-1-1 operator is able to transfer your call, the two 9-1-1 operators may have a brief conversation, and then you will be told to go ahead and give the necessary information. If your 9-1-1 operator is unable to transfer the call, you will be given the direct phone number for the Montezuma County 9-1-1 operator. Write it down and repeat it back to the operator for verification.

You: *Thank you. Is there anything else you need from me?*

Weld County 9-1-1 Operator: *No, go ahead and hang up.*

At this point you hang up and dial the Montezuma County 9-1-1 operator.

Montezuma County 9-1-1 Operator: *This is 9-1-1. What is your emergency?*

You: *My name is John Doe, and my call sign is KC0EP. I have received a radio call for emergency help from an amateur radio operator near the city of Cortez. I am still in contact by radio with the caller and relaying the information to you.*

Then proceed to report the information. After 9-1-1 has all the information, ask:

You: *Is there anything else you need from me?*

Montezuma County 9-1-1 Operator: *No, I've got it, so you can go ahead and hang up.*

You: *Thank you, disconnecting now.*

After hanging up, contact the caller again and inform them that 9-1-1 now has the information and has activated emergency responders. Ask the caller if he wants you to stay in radio contact until the responders arrive. If not, wish him well and go back to monitoring as usual. Generally, it is best to stay with the caller until help arrives and the situation is

fully resolved.

5. DETERMINING HOW TO RESPOND TO A CALL FOR HELP

Not every call you hear on the frequency you monitor is a true emergency. To illustrate, here are examples of amateur radio operator calls you might receive and some suggested responses:

1) Ham caller's car is parked in his driveway and will not start. You have determined there is no danger to life or property and no hazard to himself or others, so there is no need to call 9-1-1. At your discretion you might engage the ham caller in conversation. You might volunteer to telephone his friend and relay a message for the caller.

2) Ham caller's car is broken down on a highway at night, it is snowing, and the car has no lights. Call the appropriate county's 9-1-1 operator and report. Refer to *Traffic/Medical Emergency* standardized form because this situation poses a danger to the caller and other drivers. Police presence is needed to call a tow truck, direct traffic and aid the tow truck in removing the vehicle.

3) Ham caller's car is stuck on a forest service road in reasonable weather. You have determined there is no hazard to life or property and no danger to himself or others. No need to call 9-1-1. The amateur radio operator caller may request that you relay information to a towing company to have the car towed. At your discretion, relay caller's request to the towing company. Do not relay credit card information over the air! Some tow companies may require a credit card number before they travel to the caller's location. Others will wait until they arrive before they require a credit card. Each towing company has its own individual policy. Simply relay the message(s).

You may be able to relay precise location info and the predicament to a third party - perhaps the caller's home partner or house mate, who then can contact towing services privately. Your involvement here is discretionary, and might include providing your phone number to the third party to relay status and resolution back so you can relay via radio to the stranded party. Use your judgment.

4) Ham caller's vehicle is broken down on very remote off-road Mosquito Pass in below zero weather and cannot run the engine to keep warm. Or this could be a situation where a hiker, climber, skier, etc, is lost, or injured in a remote area and unable to self-rescue. Fill in the *Lost Emergency Requiring Search And Rescue* standardized form, (including the caller's GPS coordinates if he/she knows them) and relay this emergency to the appropriate county's 9-1-1 operator.

Note that most every brand of cell phone can show GPS coordinates even when not connected to the Cell Network.

In a case involving a vehicle, after the 9-1-1 operator releases you, take a moment to inform the amateur radio caller that Search and Rescue rescues people, not vehicles.

Explain that the caller can make arrangements with friends or a commercial towing service for the vehicle to be recovered at a later time.

5) Ham caller is calling in a valid emergency situation, but has access to the public switched network (that is: caller has cell phone access). You should never get in between an on-scene reporter and the 9-1-1 infrastructure unless there is no alternative! Don't forget to first check with the reporter: *Do you have cell signal?* If they do, advise them to dial 9-1-1 and terminate the call.

Obviously these scenarios do not just apply to calls involving vehicles, but can be adapted to almost any type of call for help you may hear. The key definition of an emergency, and therefore the need to call 9-1-1, is: **Does this situation constitute a possible threat to life, a serious loss of property, or a present danger to the caller or others? Is the caller unable to access to 9-1-1?** If the answers are both *Yes*, then call 9-1-1. But keep in mind that *inconveniences are not emergencies*.

6. USING THE PSAP DIRECTORY

The PSAP directory (Public Service Answering Points) should only be used in the following situations:

- 1) Your local 911 system is out of service and your call is not answered,
- 2) Your local 911 operator cannot transfer you to the correct County 911 system and does not give you a number to dial,
- 3) Or, in the process of transferring your call is dropped and you cannot reconnect with your local 911 operator. Always dial your local 911 operator first and follow the procedure outlined above in this document under Section 3 Calling 911 in another County before using the PSAP directory.

7. REPEATER TIME-OUT

The Colorado Connection Repeater State-wide system has a 2 minute time-out. This means you should not speak for more than 1 minute and 55 seconds before unkeying the mike and letting the repeater system reset. Also, wait 2 to 3 seconds after keying the mike before speaking so the repeaters can all come back on line. Be sure to tell a caller that if communication with them is temporarily lost you will call back. Advise them to keep the radio on.

8. ALWAYS COMMUNICATE EMERGENCIES TO 9-1-1

As long as the 9-1-1 emergency service is available, always communicate with 9-1-1 in a true emergency affecting life, property, danger to others, et cetera. All emergency responders are initially contacted for dispatch by 9-1-1.

If, for instance, a ham caller asks for help rescuing a lost person and you telephone

Search and Rescue directly, they will not act upon your request. For a Search and Rescue mobilization to occur, you must call 9-1-1. 9-1-1 then notifies the Sheriff. The Sheriff then determines whether Sheriff's Deputies can handle the situation. If not, or if the Deputies need additional help, then the Sheriff notifies Search and Rescue to mobilize. In a true emergency, always relay the ham caller's request for help to 9-1-1. Only if 9-1-1 is non-existent should you telephone emergency responders directly and relay the caller's message to them.

Note that in some rural counties, or in cases where staffing challenges limit the number of qualified dispatchers for a 9-1-1 center, there are times in the day when the Sheriff's office becomes the dispatching location. Use the PSAP directory to discover the direct dial number to call.

9. ILLEGAL COMMUNICATIONS

Rarely will you hear someone use obscenity, willfully disrupt, or broadcast music on Colorado Connection Repeater frequencies, but it does happen. If you do, ignore the offender and continue on as if the interruption had not occurred.

People who use obscenity, willfully disrupt, or broadcast music are often looking for recognition – **do not acknowledge them** and they will either stop broadcasting (which resolves the issue), or become frustrated and continue over a longer period of time. That, at least, makes it easier to locate and deal with the offender(s).

If the problem is severe, please use the Interference Reporting tab on the Colorado Connections website to fill out a report. Please consider logging in to the reporting page or set up an account to make future reporting faster when it is needed.

10. AMBER ALERTS, WEATHER WARNINGS, FIRE ANNOUNCEMENTS

Any alerts, warnings, or communications originating from civil or military authorities and broadcast by the media should **not** be reported to 9-1-1 because the appropriate authorities are already aware of the situation. If a ham calls on your monitored frequency and wants to discuss an alert, warning or communication that has been broadcast by the media, it is up to your discretion as to whether or not you join in the conversation. However, no media broadcast alert, warning, or announcement should be relayed to 9-1-1.

You can refer to the Standardized Emergency Report form and relay to 9-1-1 any call you receive about an emergency affecting life, property, danger to others, et cetera which has not previously been communicated to the appropriate authorities. The crucial question for you to ask is: Do the authorities (9-1-1, police, fire, ambulance, Search and Rescue, etc) already know about this emergency? If the answer is *Yes*, then do not tie up 9-1-1 resources by reporting what they already know. If the answer is *No*, then proceed to accurately relay the information from the amateur radio caller to 9-1-1 by telephone.

Sometimes, in a genuine emergency, someone else may have reported the emergency. If you do not know for certain that the emergency has already been reported, call 9-1-1

anyway and follow the standardized reporting procedure. It is better to be safe than sorry. The 9-1-1 operator will inform you if they have already received a report of the emergency. If so, thank 9-1-1, hang up and relay that information back to the amateur radio caller.

11. FAKE EMERGENCY CALLS

Generally you can expect emergency calls to be genuine if the ham caller gives his/her Name, Call Sign, and Phone Number (even though there is no cell coverage at the time of the report). To help prevent fake calls, please always ask for and record Name, Call Sign and Phone Number. (Also consider that the phone number can be important for subsequent follow-up about the incident with the emergency reporter.)

If you suspect a caller may be faking an emergency call, look up the Call Sign on QRZ.com and verify that:

- 1) the Call Sign exists and is active, and
- 2) the caller's name corresponds to the name of the ham listed for that call sign.

If there is a discrepancy with the name, there is a possibility – not a certainty – that the call is fake. Nevertheless, refer to the standardized report form as completely as possible and report as normally to 9-1-1.

If the Call Sign does not exist on QRZ.com, have the amateur radio caller repeat it to you and check again. If the Call Sign still does not exist, simply inform the amateur radio caller you are reporting the “emergency” to 9-1-1. Stop transmitting to the caller, use your telephone to report the “emergency” situation to 9-1-1 and explain to the 9-1-1 operator that you believe the call might be fake because the amateur radio caller used a nonexistent Call Sign or Name. Let the 9-1-1 operator determine what steps to take next. Follow the instructions of the 9-1-1 operator to the extent they are consonant with FCC Part-97.

If the caller contacts you again by radio, assure them that you have relayed the information to 9-1-1 and that they are responding appropriately. ***Do not accuse anyone of making a fake emergency call!*** The authorities must make that determination and follow up as they see fit. COLCON's monitors are not the “Truth Police”.

Keep in mind that a fake “MAYDAY” call is a **federal offense**. Do not use the three words *Mayday Mayday Mayday* in any on-air conversation unless you are actually calling for emergency help. If you are instructing someone on-air how to call for emergency help, say: *If you ever need emergency help, key your mike and call ‘Mayday’ three times in quick succession, but do not demonstrate the call.*

12. CALLER REQUESTS EMERGENCY ADVICE

In an *emergency* situation, **we gather information and relay to 9-1-1**. We do not have charter, standing, or training to provide medical, legal, law enforcement, rescue, or technical advice to anyone. If someone asks for *emergency* advice, inform them that you are relaying

the question to the 9-1-1 operator for assistance. Relay any emergency advice the 9-1-1 operator offers, back to the amateur radio caller. If the caller asks you to relay a message to a friend or family member, do so at your own discretion, but **not** as an alternative to reporting to 9-1-1.

13. CALLER REQUESTS NON-EMERGENCY ADVICE

In *non-emergency* situations, where a ham calls on the frequency you are monitoring and asks advice of a general nature, you are free to decide whether or not to respond. As a courtesy you might offer to relay the information to a friend or neighbor that the amateur radio caller thinks might be able to help. Discriminate between providing information, and providing advice or recommendation. Provide information. Resist the temptation to provide advice if safety or welfare is involved.

An actual scenario:

A hiker deep in the national forest is approaching a mountain ridge they would like to hike along prior to descending on the other side. There is a lot of thunder heard by the hiker, who is appropriately concerned that it may be deadly to continue to the ridge. They call in for advice. You may well decide you can help, using the lightning map via the Internet. In this actual case, the responding ham determined the body of lightening activity was well north of the hiker and tracking to the north-east. Here is the essential message: The responding ham does NOT say: *It will be safe for you to proceed as planned.* – They DID say: *I am reviewing a real-time lightening strike report and it appears that there is a body of lightening strikes clustered around [location], about X miles north west of your reported location. That body of strikes appears to be growing to the north and east of the mass, at this time.* It is very important that the hiker consider the information and **make their own decision** whether it is safe to proceed.

14. ORGANIZING AND OPERATING FOR EMERGENCY RESPONSE

14.1 Organizing Your Operating Position

It may be handy to place this document, COLCON *Emergency Response Manual*, *Cities with Their Counties* document, the *Public Safety Answering Points (PSAP) Directory*, and *Standardized Emergency Report* forms in a binder labeled **Colorado Connection Emergency Reporting**. Keep it at your operating position in your shack. Two pens or pencils (Murphy's Law) for notes, and your telephone or charged cell phone should also be by your radio so you can speak to the appropriate county's 9-1-1 operator by telephone and simultaneously relay information by radio with the caller.

Having a solid signal that is "full-quieting" into your repeater is very important. Your station must be reliable, so give regular thought into how well the antenna, feed line, base radio, mike, and power source are performing. Do you have any essential components in your shack that might be degrading or are at end-of-life? Are there short-cuts or intermittent issues? Do you have a plan underway to resolve those risks? We can't afford to subject

a party facing an emergency with any less than consistent, reliable, and unbroken communication.

Keep a charged Handy-Talkie (HT) available at your operating location. If you leave the shack with your HT on, remember to turn it off when returning to the shack!*

Finally, consider organizing your browser with hierarchical folders of links to allow quick and accurate recall to support an emergency response.

14.2. Radio Checks

You are not obligated to answer any request for a signal report or radio check. You are welcome to do so, and often these requests are for legitimate reasons: a newly installed transmission line, a tweak to microphone audio gain, a newly installed antenna, or a radio with configurations or software parameters completed.

When responding to such a request, recognize there are ample opportunities for COLCON users to be careless and violate FCC Part 97 prohibitions against broadcasting.

A lot of new Hams have put time and money into their new Hobby. But when it comes to making their first call, they don't know who or how to call. They may have mike fright, so asking for a radio check is their way of dipping a toe into an unfamiliar swimming pool.

At times radio checks happen faster than a kid asking for another cookie. DO NOT respond with:

Last caller/station asking for a radio check you're loud and clear.

This is an example of a broadcast transmission and is not allowed per Part 97 of the FCC regulations. Instead, call back to the requester and enter into a legitimate QSO. If you did not hear their call sign reply back:

*Last caller/station requesting a radio check, this is (your call sign). I didn't catch your call sign.
Please repeat.*

Don't hesitate to insist the calling station provide a legit call sign. Use judgment, and query QRZ if the call sign proffered, or the conversation around establishing a QSO, appears weird.

Once the caller replies back to you and there is 2 way communication, then give them the report.

*if you transmit via your fixed radio in your shack with your HT nearby and on, you will hear yourself delayed by the processing time in the repeater (about .25 sec) and it will trip you up and bring your conversation to a halt. Additionally, those on COLCON will hear you with "echo" happening. A mess! Don't do it.

Use plain language to describe their audio (use your operating aids), and be honest; we don't want a station in the back country or that has no other form of communication thinking they are loud and clear into a repeater, when they have low audio and a lot of static.

14.3. After-Action Reporting

After resolution of an emergency response, gather all documentation created by the various hams who assisted. (You did delegate someone to keep the timeline, right!?)

The timeline will be central, but you should review your notes and construct a terse synopsis of what happened, who was involved: the call signs of material contributors — especially the ham who called in the emergency, and identify the person requiring assistance. Be sure to indicate who the 9-1-1 dispatcher was who took your call, and any significant first responders with whom you communicated.

The reporting does not have to be long and extensive - bullet points are fine - but COLCON needs to be able to address any follow-up queries and requests with confidence and detail.

Submit the synopsis of the event to COLCON. You might write and edit your synopsis locally in the text editor of your choice, and then cut-and-paste the content into the web form. That way, you have a copy of your submission, and the uncertainties of networks and the Internet won't cause any loss of work.

15. NETS & NET CONTROL

15.1 Evening CERN Net

The evening CERN Net no longer meets. COLCON will host nets for various interests and content. That schedule will be promulgated by COLCON as arrangements are made.

1) Emergency During a scheduled net:

If an emergency happens during a scheduled net, the NCS will pass the emergency to a station willing and able to manage response, and conduct an abbreviated closure of the net. The emergency NCS should also start a time line of the call or delegate that task to another monitor that has checked into the Net that evening and provide other assistance as needed.

2) Interference / QRM or Repeater failure

Should it become obvious that a Net Control is unable to communicate due to interference or a failure, any station that has been copying the information is encouraged to step in and continue the net.

Recently a jammer was hitting the Denver system and voters with a strong enough signal to "capture" the receiver detectors, effectively shutting Denver down. Our NCS

was using Colorado Springs, and was able hear stations through the interference as long as they were not using the Denver node. The appropriate action was to call for check-ins *other than through the Denver node* to keep the net moving.

15.2 COLCON Recurring Nets

Recurring Nets on the Colorado Connection

WHEN TIME NET_NAME

- Daily 1830 MT [To Be Scheduled / Arranged]
- Daily 1900 MT Colorado Traffic Net
- Weekly Thursday 2000 MT Colorado Connection Repeater Net
- Weekly Saturday 0930 MT Colorado Preparedness Net
- Weekly Sunday 2000 MT Colorado ARES (Amateur Radio Emergency Services)
- Monthly First Thursday 1800 MT Red Cross Net
- Monthly Second Monday 1900 MT Colorado ARRL Section Net
- Monthly Fourth Monday 2000 MT Colorado Veterans Net

15.3. Emergency During Amateur Nets

Emergencies can occur at any time. If an emergency call comes through while an amateur radio Net is in progress, the emergency call has priority. Use the phrase ***BREAK for Net Control*** and inform the Net Control that you are answering an emergency call on this frequency and will relay the information to the 9-1-1 operator. Net Control should immediately suspend the net so you, as a responding operator, can engage the caller and follow these standardized emergency reporting procedures.

16. IN CLOSING

Thanks so much for your time and willingness to help others! Not only do volunteer emergency monitors help make others safer – we also make ourselves safer as we enjoy Colorado's wild areas!