

PC-NET Program



*Gig Harbor Maritime Parade: "Unity in the Community" Saturday, June 1st, 2002 PEP-C float: "We're All in the Same Boat"
[Photo courtesy of Dave Watson, PEP-C]*

PC-NET Pierce County Neighborhood Emergency Teams

www.co.pierce.wa.us/2297/Pierce-County-Neighborhood-Emergency-Tea

PC-NET is a neighborhood-oriented approach to emergency preparedness. It is based on the belief that a cooperative effort between a community and its citizens is the only sure way to prepare for major disasters.

Major disasters stretch city resources to their limits. It is estimated that regular emergency services will be unable to respond to most calls during the first 72 hours following a major disaster, such as a severe earthquake. The number of people who will be needing help, and the inaccessibility of many neighborhoods due to damage and debris will prevent immediate aid.

If individuals and their neighborhoods are prepared to mutually assist each other during these critical hours, lives can be saved, property can be spared, and emergency services can be freed to respond to the most devastated areas. PC-NET's overall purpose is to enable neighborhoods to be self-sufficient for a minimum of 72 hours following a major disaster. This will be accomplished by:

- encouraging each individual and home to become personally prepared at home
- organizing block groups into seven disaster response teams:
 - Block Coordination
 - Communications
 - Damage Assessment
 - First Aid
 - Safety and Security
 - Light Search and Rescue
 - Sheltering and Special Needs
- utilizing the skills and knowledge the neighborhood currently possesses.

While the overall purpose of the PC-NET program is to teach neighborhoods self-sufficiency during times of disaster, preparedness efforts must also focus on individuals and families in

their homes. A city whose population is prepared at home will see a significant reduction in the need for police, fire and ambulance support.

As of December 2004, Pierce County, Washington had 127 active PC-NET and NAT neighborhoods. More than 1,500 citizens have been through some level of emergency and/or crime prevention training with our program. We want to reach even more. Please help us by spreading the word to friends and family.

Contact Pierce County PC-NET Coordinators

2501 S. 35th St., Suite D
Tacoma, WA 98409

Ph: (253) 798-6595

Fx: (253) 798-3307

Hours - M-F, 7:30 AM - 4:30 PM

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IMPORTANT for PC NET Trainers - to qualify for an emergency worker card, you must take the 3 FEMA classes IS100/700/200. Pierce County DEM offers a 1-day course every few months covering these 3 classes, but you may take them anytime on line at FEMA here.

- [IS-100.B: Introduction to Incident Command System, ICS-100](#)
- [IS-700.A: National Incident Management System \(NIMS\) An Introduction](#)
- [IS-200.B ICS for Single Resources and Initial Action Incidents](#)