

## EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS

Please notice the information on emergency communications on the inside cover of your new 2015 directory. This advises that Rod Mash as a volunteer emergency communications worker for the Jefferson County of Emergency Management, can provide emergency communications using battery power, if required, in the event of phone and cell phone outages in this area.

At the 2115 BCCA Annual meeting, Rod Mash recommended that the Jefferson County Nixle cell phone text broadcast system is an important source of emergency or major incident information.

In order to sign up for this cell text advisory service, you will need to follow the link below (click on the cell phone).

You will routinely get a test message every Wednesday and infrequently important items such as major incidents, highway blockage, power lines down, power outage/restoration information, etc.

If you have trouble having this Nixle service work, you may have to contact your cell service provider as they may have to unblock some types of text messages.

**YOU WILL KNOW AS SOON AS  
WE KNOW!**

If you [sign up for text alerts](#)

Click on the phone >>>>

Register [here](#) for **text alerts** from **Jefferson County WA Emergency Management** on your text-enabled device + email. [\*more...\*](#)

Receive local text and email notices about incidents in progress in the Jefferson County - Port Townsend area. (Powered by

**NIXLE**©).

Also, the Jefferson County Emergency Operations center has a web site with very useful information including preparedness training, volunteer opportunities, etc.

<http://www.jeffcoeoc.org/>

Another source of information is the Port Townsend FM station KPTZ on 91.9. It can be linked, as appropriate, to the Department of Emergency Services for information.

As a trained, volunteer emergency communicator, Rod Mash also participates in the weekly emergency communication network tests between the network of ham communication volunteers and the Department of Emergency Management (DEM). The DEM is also encouraging the use of the lower powered FRS (Family Radio Service) equipment within a community as no license is required. If there is any interest, we could begin something like a monthly check-in to exercise our ability in case of need as other larger communities have done.

There are many choices for the FRS/GMRS radios. Below is a sample set from Amazon.com. You may already have an equivalent set. It is recommended that the rechargeable batteries be removed and replaceable batteries be used (and have spares). The rechargeable cells tend to wear out over long charging periods. If you have a set and would like to test it, please give Rod Mash a call.

### **Midland LXT118 22-Channel GMRS with 18-Mile Range, E Vox, and Channel Scan (Pair)**

If you have any questions or suggestions, please call.

Thanks,  
Rod Mash

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360-531-0632 (Cell)