

Overlook Park Neighborhood Emergency Team (NET) Disaster Response Operations Plan

The purpose of the operations (“Ops”) plan is to provide guidance in the event of a major disaster. The plan includes discussions of:

- Staging Areas & Deployment
- Staging Area Protocol
- Communication
- Resources
- Known Hazards
- Search Priorities

STAGING AREAS

The size of the neighborhood suggests multiple NET staging areas (NSAs). NSAs have been selected for their general access and open ground. There is some concern that Overlook’s I-5 crossings, at Ainsworth, Killingsworth, Alberta, Going, and Skidmore, may be down after a large earthquake. At the same time, failure of storage tanks in Linnton may inspire evacuation of St. Johns, etc. towards the east. In that case, we can expect larger numbers of people in Overlook, likely attempting an I-5 crossing. Since this is only one possible scenario, it does not outweigh our desire to place staging areas in well-known, convenient locations. The issue of freeway crossings is addressed in a separate section.

Staging within Overlook is complicated by Going St., which has a single crossing (a pedestrian bridge) between Interstate and Greeley. Movement between “north” Overlook and “south” Overlook may be difficult and/or create bottlenecks at the Going & Interstate intersection.

For these reasons, we are considering 4 NSAs:

Beach School [OK-NSA1]

1710 N Humboldt St.

Should accommodate Overlook between Killingsworth & Going {W of Interstate}, and between Going & Skidmore {E&W of Interstate}

Overlook Park [OK-NSA2]

1599 N Fremont St.

Should accommodate Overlook south of Skidmore (E&W of Interstate)

Patton Park [OK-NSA3]

5300 N Interstate Ave.

Should accommodate Overlook between Ainsworth & Going {E of Interstate}

Omaha Blocks @ Killingsworth [OK-NSA4]

2250 N Killingsworth

Should accommodate Overlook between Ainsworth & Killingsworth {W of Interstate}

Fire Station 24 [OK-PFD]

N Going & Maryland

Will likely default to supplementary staging area, and radio hub

BEECN

None

Nearest is Jefferson High school.

Deployment

Team members should follow the overall NET guidelines regarding deployment - ensuring the safety of themselves and their family/household members before deploying; deploying only upon receiving a message from PBEM; or self-activating in the event of a major disaster and communications failure. If communications systems are partially available, team members should check in with both team leaders and your "check-in contact" on the team contact sheet. Text message is preferred, but phone call is ok as well. Check-in should consist of status and availability (or not) to deploy, and estimated time to deploy. Team member should retrieve their NET kit and personal protective equipment, and proceed to the primary staging area. Follow the Staging Area Protocol (below) to establish a staging area/command post at either the primary or secondary staging area. Once a secure staging area is established, establish incident command. Team members should nominate/vote for an incident commander among those present. No pre-designated roles are assigned other than amateur radio operator (ARO).

STAGING AREA PROTOCOL

In the event of a major disaster, team members' arrival at the staging area may be spread out over a long time interval. Some team members may arrive and then be forced to leave a staging area, or may arrive and then decide to use an alternate staging area, before other team members are able to deploy. By following the steps below, we will try to avoid splitting the team across sites or losing track of available team members.

1. Ensure the staging area is safe to approach - size up the area for any immediate hazards such as downed power lines, gas leaks, fire, etc. If site is clearly unsafe to approach, proceed to backup site.
2. Check for the presence of any other team members. If present, proceed with ordinary operations.
3. Determine if you are the first to arrive. Check the three designated marker locations noted on the staging area diagram for any flagging/tape/other markings.
4. If markings are present:
 - a. If markings indicate "SITE BAD," add your initials and date/time, and proceed to the indicated backup staging area.
 - b. If markings indicate "SITE OK," other team members may have had to leave due to time, weather, checking on family, etc. Re-establish the staging area and act as de facto incident commander until more team members arrive.
5. If markings are not present - you are likely first to arrive.
 - a. Assess the staging area for immediate and longer-term use.
 - b. Check integrity of any available shelters.
 - i. If site is OK, make a "SITE OK" marking at the marker location, and establish the staging area; act as de facto incident commander until more team members arrive.

ii. If site is not usable, make a "SITE BAD" marking and indicate backup staging area to proceed to. Attempt to note your identity (name or initials), and date/time.

6. If you are the last to leave a given staging area, ensure that you leave enough marking info for any later-arriving members to know your status, location, and likely time of return if any. When making site markings, consider following team members may need to locate them in dark, rain, etc. Do your best to ensure that markings are visible and legible.

COMMUNICATION

Team Member Coordination

At present several team members have general-use portable radios. If cell or other phone service is believed to be available, team members should check in with the team leaders and at least one other team member via text or phone call as soon as possible after deploying.

If other team members' homes are on the way to the staging area, consider checking for their presence en-route, though do not get overly-delayed trying to locate other team members at locations other than the planned staging areas.

Amateur Radio Operations

Due to the long distance to Fire Station 24, team Amateur radio operators (AROs) will not make use of the fire station go-box except as a backup option. The ARO will operate from the team staging area or his/her home as applicable.

Each ARO should establish contact with Multnomah County Amateur Radio Emergency Services (ARES) and Portland Emergency Communication Center (ECC) networks as per NET guidelines. ARO should determine whether to do so from staging area or from home based on current conditions.

If ARO has not checked in at staging area after a reasonable amount of time, incident commander should do a status check at home of ARO (e.g., by sending a runner) as soon as resources allow. At this point, incident command and ARO can re-assess whether to relocate ARO operations to staging area.

RESOURCES

This section is a reference of potential resources in and around the neighborhood that may be useful during NET operations. Unless otherwise noted, team members should not assume that the team has any special access to these resources. Over time we will work on establishing relationships with some of these groups and businesses.

Emergency Response Sites

- Portland Fire Station #24: N Interstate & Going

- Overlook NET Staging Area 1: Beach School
- Overlook NET Staging Area 2: Overlook Park
- Overlook NET Staging Area 3: Patton Park
- Overlook NET Staging Area 4: Omaha Blocks (Killingsworth-Ainsworth)

There is no BEECN site within Overlook NET boundaries (closest at Jefferson HS and Arbor Lodge Park)

Parks and Open Areas, Sheltered Areas

- Beach School Playground: N Humboldt and Concord
- Overlook Park: SE 26th and Powell
- Patton Park: SE 32nd and Market
- Overlook House: SE 27th and Clinton
- Omaha Park Blocks: SE Ladd and Elliott
- Adidas playing fields

Schools

- Beach School: 1710 N Humboldt (@ Concord)
- Trillium Charter School: 5420 N Interstate (@ Maryland)
- Peninsula Children's Learning Center: 4720 N Maryland (@ Wygant)

Are we missing anyone?

Tools and Equipment

- Harbor Freight: 1335 N Mason (@ Interstate)
- CarQuest: 1501 N Skidmore (@ Interstate)

How can each of our local businesses help out? What gaps does that leave us?

Food and Supplies

- There are no grocery stores within the Overlook NET boundaries
- Plaid Pantry/Subway: 1505 N Going (@ Interstate)
- 76: 5429 Interstate (@ Killingsworth)

Medical Treatment

- Providence North Portland: 4920 N Interstate (@ Alberta)
- Kaiser Permanente: 3550 N. Interstate (@ Fremont)

KNOWN HAZARDS

This section describes some of the known hazards present in the neighborhood.

Willamette Bluff

The bluffs overlooking Swan Island are currently an unknown quantity for a major earthquake, though the likelihood of a landslide seems high.

Old/Unreinforced Masonry Structures

"The neighborhood contains a large number of old pre-1970s houses. We have no data on how many of these are likely to be retrofitted. In addition, there are a number of Unreinforced Masonry structures, mostly in the industrial area and along the commercial corridors, but also scattered throughout the residential areas."

This is a piece from another team's plan. **I assume it's true for Overlook but how do we confirm this?**

Natural Gas Pipeline

This piece remains from another team's plan. **Can someone do an Overlook-wide natural gas locate?**

Railway

A heavy rail right of way passes through the neighborhood along the river and Swan Island. A variety of cargo including hazardous materials are shipped through this right of way to the rail yard just north of the Fremont Bridge.

Liquefiable Soils

“Some portion of the neighborhood may sit on a deposit of soils prone to liquefaction. The area near the Willamette River will be prone to lateral spreading which can damage structures, roads, and underground utilities. In areas further from the river, localized liquefaction may cause structural damage and settlement to many structures. Team members should use additional caution when performing size-up and structural damage assessments to be aware of these types of damage.”

This is a piece from another team’s plan. **I assume it’s true for Overlook but how do we confirm this?**

SEARCH PRIORITIES

Team operational priorities should be dictated by the situation, conditions, available resources, etc. The following section lists spots in the neighborhood that can be considered as priorities either due to a possible high concentration of people, vulnerable populations, or at-risk structures. As of October 2014, too much is unknown about the neighborhood to construct adequate search priorities.