

How Much Does Our Service Cost?

By federal law, all of our service is free.

In addition to our primary coverage area in Northern Santa Clara County, we supply on a mutual aid basis communications personnel to San Mateo, Alameda and Santa Cruz counties when requested. Amateur radio has always played a major role in disaster communications. Over 60,000 amateur radio operators in the United States belong to the Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES) and Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Service (RACES). This service has been a vital part of emergency communications for more than 60 years, whether it be relaying medical messages into an earthquake ravaged village in South America, answering a "Mayday" from a ship in the Pacific Ocean or finding out if a neighbors relative survived a blizzard in the midwest. We are proud of our reputation and look forward to serving our communities. If there is a major emergency in the South Bay area LOOK FOR US —

SPECS WILL BE THERE!

AGENCIES SERVED:

American Red Cross

Palo Alto, San Jose Chapters

Police & Fire Departments

Los Altos
Los Altos Hills
Mt. View
Palo Alto
Stanford
Sunnyvale

Public Schools

Palo Alto
Los Altos
Mt. View
Foothill College

Hospitals

Kaiser
El Camino
Palo Alto Medical Clinic
Veterans
Stanford Medical Center

Others

Moffett Field
California Division of Forestry
Office of Emergency Services
U.S. Geological Survey

For further information contact:

Dr. Sy Stein, Emergency Coordinator
MT. VIEW, 13080 Lorene Ct.
Mt. View, CA 94040 — (415) 967-0362

Jerry Starkey, Emergency Coordinator
LOS ALTOS, 736 Filip Rd.
Los Altos, CA 94022 — (415) 964-6584

James Lomasney, Emergency Coordinator
PALO ALTO, 2581 Waverly St.
Palo Alto, CA 94301 — (415) 321-8233

Ted Harris, Emergency Coordinator
STANFORD, 271 Mimosa Way
Portola Valley, CA 94025 — (415) 854-1949

Walt Rees, Emergency Coordinator
SUNNYVALE, 1607 Finch Way
Sunnyvale, CA 94087 — (408) 736-8863

Walter Read, District Emergency Coordinator
10371 Berkshire Dr.
Los Altos, CA 94022 — (415) 948-6753

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SOUTHERN
PENINSULA
EMERGENCY
COMMUNICATIONS
SYSTEM



Who Are We?

We are a group of radio amateurs (hams) licensed by the Federal Communications Commission, dedicated to serving our communities in time of need.

We furnish free back-up communications to police, fire departments, Red Cross, hospitals, schools and forest service during time of emergency such as an earthquake, flood, chemical spill, power outage, forest fire or an airplane crash.



On the road we report accidents, road hazards, fires etc. We contact help for stalled motorists.

During community events such as parades, foot and bicycle races, tennis matches, March of Dimes Walkathons and car rallies, we provide free communications between officials and check points to enhance management of activities.

How Do We Operate?

By pushing specific buttons on our handy talkies, an amateur member can talk directly via telephone to fire stations, Police dispatchers, Highway Patrol, hospitals and other key agencies on the Southern peninsula. This feature provides for rapid on the spot reporting of emergencies.

Amateurs on the Southern Peninsula transmit from low power transceivers such as handy talkies to a repeater. The repeater with its higher power and high antenna extends the reliable range of these low powered portable and mobile stations to most of the South Bay area.

The SPECS repeater is located at El Camino Hospital, 2500 Grant Road, Mountain View. The repeater was conceived and made operational through donations of equipment, time and money from the city of Mt. View, El Camino Hospital and numerous amateurs.

Our members, men and women, young and old, come from many walks of life. We count homemakers, students, physicians, dentists, retirees, business people, technicians and engineers on our rolls. Most of us have been Red Cross trained in first aid, cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR), damage assessment and shelter management.