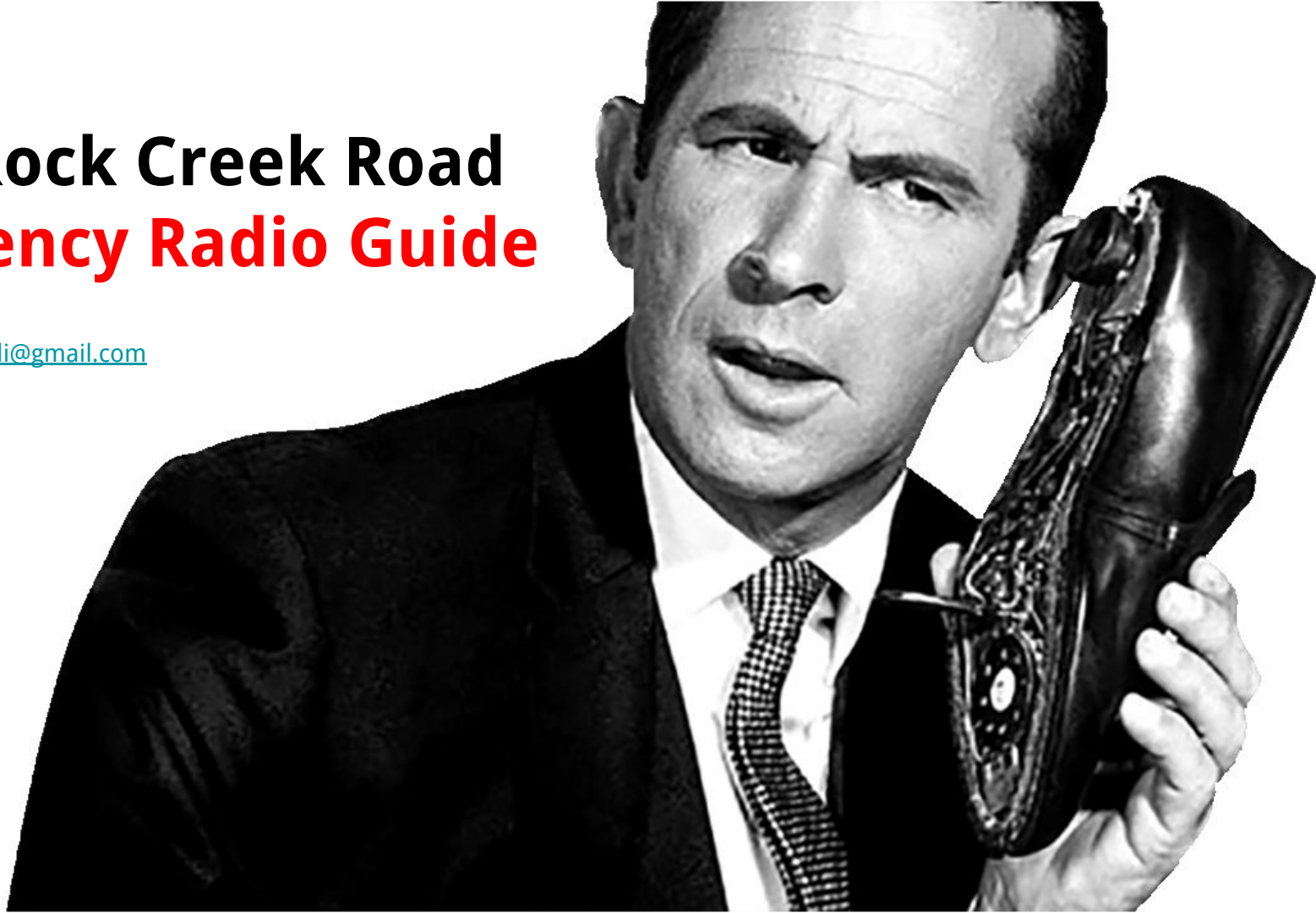


MYN: Rock Creek Road Emergency Radio Guide

Contact peter.j.torelli@gmail.com

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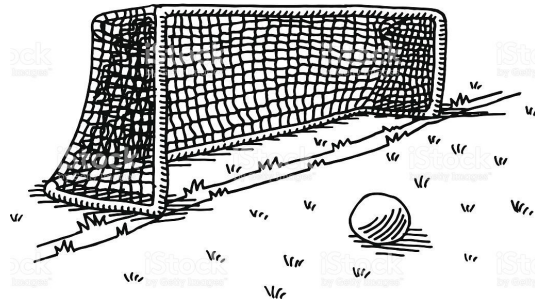


Goals

Provide a handy reference

Explain how to use the radio

Define a periodic test strategy for our 'hood



Part A. The Radio

The Radio

Baofeng BF-888S

- Popular two-way emergency radio
- PTT: one speaks while everyone listens
- Frequency Range: 400-470MHz
- 16 channel
- ~\$11 each
- Unobstructed range range: 1-2.5miles
- Tested range (trees and hills): 0.5miles



Basic Operation

Always leave the phone in its charging cradle

Leave the radio turned on to be able to hear calls

Push-to-talk: only one person can talk at a time (it's not a phone)

Rock Creek Road has been assigned **Channel 3** for emergencies (with channel 7 as backup if there is too much noise).

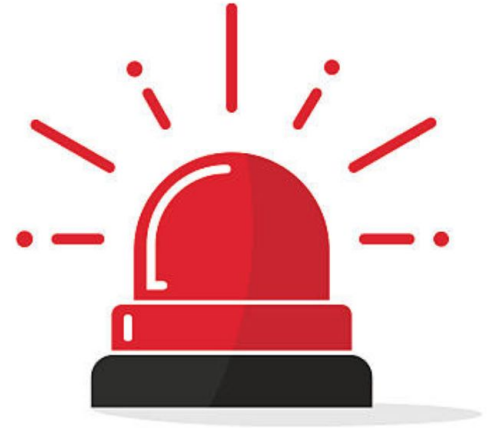
Do not use Channel 1 for emergencies

Emergency Usage

Rock Creek Road has been assigned **Channel 3** for emergencies

Radios aren't powerful enough to reach everyone so messages will need to spread from groups of nearest neighbors until the problem can be addressed

Follow the procedures for making a call in the following slides



Part B. Radio Communication Basics

(a.k.a., how to sound like an awkward trucker...)



Usage: Basic Etiquette

Basic Radio Etiquette Rules

1. When using a two-way radio you cannot speak and listen at the same time, as you can with a phone.
2. Don't interrupt if you hear other people talking.
3. Do not respond if you aren't sure the call is for you. Wait until you hear your call sign to respond.

Think Before You Speak

1. Decide what you are going say and to whom it is meant for.
2. Make your conversations as concise, precise, and clear as possible.
3. Avoid long and complicated sentences. If your message is long, divide it into separate shorter messages.

4 Golden Rules of Radio Communication

1. **Clarity:** Your voice should be clear. Speak a little slower than normal. Speak in a normal tone, do not shout.
2. **Simplicity:** Keep your message simple enough for intended listeners to understand.
3. **Brevity:** Be precise and to the point.
4. **Security:** Do not transmit confidential information on a radio unless you know the proper security technology is in place. Remember, frequencies are shared, you do not have exclusive use of the frequency.

How to Make a Call

Steps

1. First listen to ensure the channel is clear for you.
2. Press the PTT (Push-To-Talk) button.
3. After 2 seconds:
4. Say "recipient's call sign or name"
5. Followed by "THIS IS" and "your call sign or name"
6. Once the person replies, convey your message.

Example Communication

1. Adam: HELLO Mike, this is Adam. Over.
2. Mike: Adam, this is Mike, Stand By. Over.
3. Mike: Adam, this is Mike, Go Ahead. Over.
4. Adam: Mike, there is a fire at 123 Main St. Over.
5. Mike: Adam, this is Mike, confirming a fire at 123 main St. The fire department will be notified. Over.
6. Adam: Mike, this is Adam, address is confirmed, thanks for the help. Over and Out.

Other Tips

1. Leave a second or two between in between messages to give others a chance to break in.
2. It is always best to speak in short simple phrases on the radio and toss the conversation back and forth with the word "OVER."
3. Don't speak immediately when you press the PTT (push to talk), especially with digital radios which among all their benefits have slightly longer delay. Wait 2-3 seconds, if you speak as soon you press the PTT button, it can chop off your the first syllable or word making you hard to understand

Radio User's Language

Go Ahead – Resume transmission

Say Again – Re-transmit your message

Stand By – Transmission has been acknowledged, but I am unable to respond now.

Roger – Message received and understood.

Affirmative – Yes – Avoid yup, nope, etc.

Negative – No

Over – Transmission finished.

Out – Communication is over and the channel is available for others.

Part C. Emergency System Drills

Periodic Test Drill Goals

1. **Radios are checked** to make sure they are functioning.
2. **Everyone gets practice** using the radios, the channel assignments, and the lingo. (Speaking in “Radio Lingo” might seem awkward at first, this is a good time to get used to it!)
3. **We get reassurance** that our community is intact and participating!

Running the test drill

We plan to run a test drill to make sure everyone can be heard by their nearest neighbors

Information about when and how will be sent out once our Rock Creek MYN team figures out the details

“Who ya gonna call?”

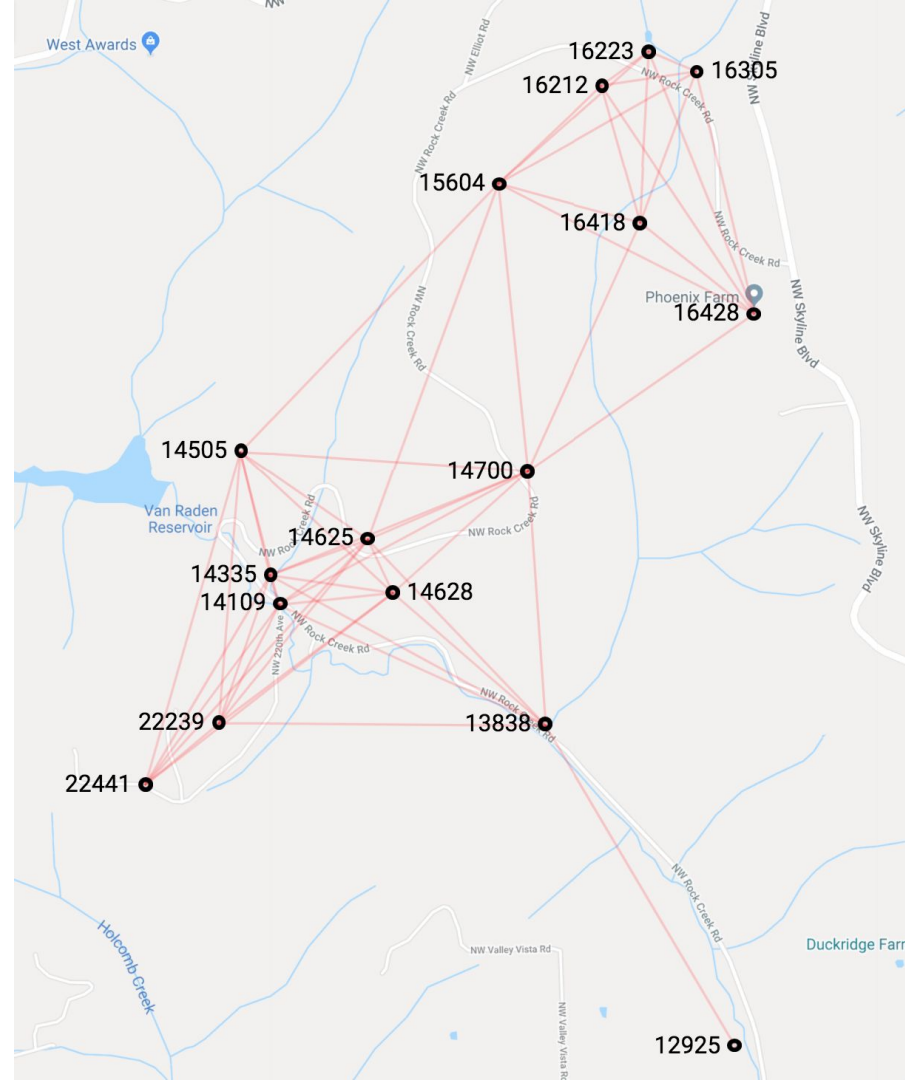
Since our radios can't reach miles and miles like expensive radios, you will only be able to talk to the people within $\frac{1}{2}$ to 1 mile away (depending on trees), which should be sufficient for calling for help or relaying messages if power & cell phones & internet all go down.

The following map shows every address that bought a radio, and every radio owner within about a half-mile of that address.

Neighbor Distance Map

The red lines are at most .66 miles apart

Laura	12925 Rock Creek Road
Roger	13838 Rock Creek Road
Rachael	14109 Rock Creek Road
Butch	14335 Rock Creek Road
Susan	14505 Rock Creek Road
Hope	14625 Rock Creek Road
Joe	14628 Rock Creek Road
Ronald	14700 Rock Creek Road
John	15604 Rock Creek Road
Kathy	16212 Rock Creek Road
Rob	16223 Rock Creek Road
Mary	16305 Rock Creek Road
Donald	16418 Rock Creek Road
Christina	16428 Rock Creek Road
Rebecca	16428 Rock Creek Road
Natalie	16428 Rock Creek Road
Debbie	22239 NW 220th Avenue
Peter	22441 NW 220th Avenue



Thanks!