



# DuPont Rescue Experience

*Participant Information Guide:*

The DuPont Rescue Experience Planning Committee would like to thank the following for their sponsorship of this exercise:



North Carolina Emergency Management  
North Carolina Search & Rescue Advisory Council  
DuPont State Forest - NC Forest Service  
Blue Ridge Community College  
Haywood County Emergency Management  
Transylvania County Emergency Management  
Henderson County Emergency Management  
Mitchell County Emergency Management  
Henderson County Rescue Squad  
Asheville Fire Department  
Charlotte Fire Department  
Brevard Rescue Squad  
Buncombe County Rescue Squad  
Cedar Mountain Fire Rescue  
Wake Canine Search & Rescue



# I. Background

Thank you for attending the Annual DuPont Rescue Experience. Each year the event has grown larger and larger based on your hard work and participation.

The DuPont Rescue Experience will simulate search and rescue operations in a wilderness environment. The exercise will be divided into four (12) hour operational periods and will be managed utilizing the National Incident Management System. Search crews, dog crews, and technical rescue teams are encouraged to participate. Live players will be utilized for the lost subject(s). Live subjects or mannequins may be used for technical rope operations based on the technical level of each scenario.

This is a full scale exercise; all participants will all have an opportunity to exercise their skills in 12 hour operational periods throughout the event.

This year one core IMT will coordinate operations for the entire weekend. This will ensure teams are assigned as quickly as possible for field work. There will be opportunities within the IMT to serve in various positions or deputy / assistant positions.

# II. Education

Training and scenarios all weekend will involve combining skillsets and abilities to overcome challenges. Participants will be able to test their skills and obtain an optional SARTECH I, II or III certification.

# III. Logistics

- SAR Pack:  
Each exercise participant should be prepared for all types of weather and terrain. Each participant should bring their own gear (24hour pack) as well as their own radio equipment and chargers if able. A copy of the equipment list may be found at: <http://www.dupontrescue.com/forms-a-guides.html>
- Ropes Equipment:  
Each participant wishing to participate in rope rescue scenarios should bring the following individual equipment at a minimum: rescue or rock climbing helmet, NFPA rated class II or III rescue harness, rope gloves, adequate boots, 1 descending device, 6 steel carabiners, day pack with snacks, 3 prussik sets, 1-20' 1" webbing, 1-30' 1" webbing.

Also any teams wishing to exercise their rope rescue capabilities may want to bring any needed team gear for completing highlines, raises or lowers in the wilderness environment. This equipment may include: 1 patient Transport device, 4 sections of 200' ½ static lines, 8 sets of matched prussiks, 4 prussik minding pulleys, 2 brake bar racks G rated, 12 locking carabiners, 2 rigging plates, 5 body cords 25', 2 sections 8mm 30' static, 2 edge protectors. A cache of team gear is available but participants are encouraged to use the equipment they will have on hand during a response in their jurisdiction.

At any time rope rescue facilitators may limit the use of a piece of equipment if they feel it is unsafe for operations.

- GPS Use

Participants using GPS should have their gps set on:

Coordinates: USNG (10m) Datum: WGS 84

OR MGRS (10M) Datum: NAD 83

If you have a GPS download cable please bring it with you to the debriefing.

- Meals

The following meals will be provided for participants:

- Friday: Supper
- Saturday: Breakfast, Lunch, Supper
- Sunday: Breakfast, Lunch

*Each participant may want to bring snacks and other items for other times.*

*Water and Coffee will be available at all times.*

*In an effort to conserve please bring a coffee mug for hot beverages and a reusable water bottle for cold beverages. Other bottled water will be available as needed.*

## IV. Forest & Base Camp Rules

- Overview
  - This is the most popular NC State Forest; we need to remember to share the forest with hikers, joggers, bike riders and horseback riders. We are fortunate the NCFS grants us a special permit for this training and we do not want to jeopardize it.
  - Limited hunting is allowed in the forest, be sure to follow all safety instructions provided by the IMT.
- State Forest Rules
  - NC State Forests all have a common list of rules that apply therein, these rules may be found at: <http://www.dupontrescue.com/forms-a-guides/>
  - Rules that apply: Intoxication prohibited, public display of alcohol prohibited, noise limitations, motorized vehicles in designated areas only.
  - The DuPont Rescue Experience operates under a special permit that allows limited rope rescue work, ATVs and camp fires as established in the exercise rules.
- Base Camp
  - Do not litter, place trash in trash cans, recyclables in recycle cans.
  - Do not leave food lying around, secure food and trash each night to prevent wildlife from accessing it. We have raccoons and black bears in the area and they love your trash.
  - ***Campfires in designated areas only.*** The State Forest has a no fire policy. Feel free to use the group fire pit at the southwest corner of the campsite area. Above ground fireplaces are acceptable. (approved barrels, etc.)
  - Please use the porta-johns when possible, the septic system at the farmhouse is very fragile and we need to conserve it.
  - Be sure to clean-up after your canine, there is an exercise area if needed.
- Site Selection
  - When arriving at the Guion Farm proceed directly to staging where the staging officer will direct you to the appropriate campsite area.
  - Follow all posted travel lanes for vehicles
  - Vehicle usage may be restricted in the event of inclement weather
- Generators
  - For many attendees this may be the only time of the year they are able to enjoy the wonderful mountains of Western North Carolina, for this reason we ask:
  - Be a good neighbor, if you are using a generator please setup your camp with the other generator folks. Unless you have a whisper quiet generator, follow the posted quiet time of 10 pm to 6 am. Generators should meet USFS Safety Requirements. (Whisper Quiet: 60 db @ 50' (NPS limit))

- ATV's
  - ATVs are only allowed on approved trails. Please be careful and protect the forest.
  - Operators are required to use full PPE including gloves, helmet & eye protection.
  - ATV use may be restricted due to weather or specific requirements of the NCFS.
  - Stay alert for other pedestrian and horseback traffic.
  - Use is restricted to operational needs, no freelancing.
  - ATVs are to be staged when not on operations.
  - All ATVs are subject to a safety inspection by the exercise staff.
  - ATVs are NOT to be used unless on an assigned exercise operation.
  - Other ATV rules posted at:  
<http://www.dupontrescue.com/forms-a-guides/>

## V. Funding

The exercise is funded in part through grants from North Carolina Emergency Management and the North Carolina Search and Rescue Advisory Council.

## VI. Communications Plan

The majority of communications will be left up to the Incident Commander. The exercise planning committees have allocated the following frequencies to use during the exercise.

Participants are encouraged to bring and exercise their own radio equipment. A cache of radios will also be available for operational teams.

Participants wishing to use their own radios should ensure they have one of the following:

NC Viper Events Channels

State Fire, Rescue, EMS with monitor capability or no PL tones

US V-Tac, U-Tac and 800 Interoperability Channels

Cellular phones will be used as backup for all teams.

Participants may not have cell phone coverage throughout the entire exercise. In the event of an offsite family emergency, family members may contact the Exercise Staff through:

Henderson County Communications: 828-697-4912

Incident Command Post: 828-808-1931

## VII. Participant Safety Briefing Sheet

This information sheet is being provided to all participants in the exercise to help improve the level of safety. *This sheet does not supersede the ICS 215A posted during each operational period at the Command Post.* Each participant should check the ICS 215A before participating in the operational period.

### Handling of Emergencies

- Any real-world medical emergency, injury, or other emergency must be relayed to the Incident Commander. The Incident Commander will decide upon an appropriate response to the emergency and also decide if the event is serious enough to call a halt to the exercise. Medical Crews are available to work with Logistics during the entire event.
- When communicating a real-world emergency, injury etc., to the Incident Commander, **Be sure to use the words “real-world”**. The scenario, has the possibility of participants being requested to participate in “simulated” emergencies as part of the scenario, and it is very important to differentiate these planned scenario activities from any unintended emergencies that may occur during the exercise.
- If the Exercise Controller or Incident Commander should call a stop to the exercise, the code phrase to all participants will be **“All Stations STOP”**. Following that call, any special instructions will be disseminated regarding emergency response or demobilization.
- If regular radio communications fail, the following cellular phone numbers may be used for emergency contact to the Command Post.  
Exercise Emergency Phone Number:           828-808-1931
- Failure to follow any instructions or rules as established by the IMT or Exercise Staff may result in limited participation or being asked to leave the site.

## VIII. Check-In & Demobilization

- Check In [BASE CAMP: 3045 Sky Valley Road, Hendersonville NC 28739](#)
  - When arriving at the Guion Farm proceed directly to staging where the staging officer will direct you to the appropriate campsite area. You may then setup your campsite and begin settling in.
  - Exercise Check-In will open at 2PM in the farm house. There will also be a check in at the IMT area before each operational period for that period.
  
- Demobilization
  - Before leaving the exercise site for the weekend ensure your campsite has been cleared of all trash and equipment.
  - See one of the exercise staff for an inspection of your campsite area before departing.
  - Check out at the Farmhouse and receive exercise certificates.
  - There will be a computer setup for sharing of digital photos. We will load the shared photos into a Web Album for attendees to download. We encourage folks to share their photos.
  - This exercise has grown each year based on your feedback and experiences. Each exercise participant will have the opportunity to evaluate the exercise based on your participation in the event. We appreciate your honesty so we may improve for future exercises.

***Finally THANK YOU for attending the DuPont Rescue Experience. Because of your dedication to training we are able to make this happen. Each participant is a true asset to your agency and hopefully by attending you have been able to refine your knowledge and skills and better serve your community.***

***See you next year....***