

# DC Emergency Radio Network



## THE DC EMERGENCY RADIO NETWORK

**“Connecting people and neighborhoods in an emergency”**



**The DC Emergency Radio Network** is an alternate means of communication during an emergency.

If there's a power, telephone, cell phone or Internet failure, the DC Emergency Radio Network, DCERN, can keep you in touch with your neighbors, your family and officials.

DCERN uses Family Radio Service (FRS) and General Mobile Radio Service (GMRS) radios on channel 1.

Many people in Washington, DC already have FRS and GMRS radios. These are the small handheld walkie-talkie radios that family and friends use to keep in touch at parks, on ski slopes, at Disneyworld and in malls. They're sold at Radio Shack, Best Buy, Staples and elsewhere. FRS radios are license-free and have a range of 1/4 to 1 mile; GMRS radios have a range of 5 to 10 miles or possibly more.

If normal modes of communication go down or become unreliable —because of a terrorist attack, power outage, cell phone network congestion, storm or other problem— the DC Emergency Radio Network is a way of communicating and relaying vital information.

DCERN may also be called into service for other emergencies, such as searching for a lost child, or if neighbors need to evacuate their homes. If cell phone towers fail and you need to communicate while outside, your DCERN radio may be the only way to communicate.

In an emergency, tune your FRS/GMRS radio to the DC Emergency Radio Network on channel 1. DCERN may be your pipeline to emergency help and information.

DCERN works on the principle that the simplest means of communication is the most reliable in an emergency.

To join the DC Emergency Radio Network, all you need is an inexpensive FRS or GMRS radio. For more information, visit **[www.dcradio.org](http://www.dcradio.org)**.

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[WWW.DCRADIO.ORG](http://WWW.DCRADIO.ORG)