START WITH WHAT YOU KNOW

- Group texts, phone calls, and email work every day.
- Apps like WhatsApp and Signal help organize groups.
- **BUT...** they depend on power, cell towers, and internet.



WHEN SYSTEMS FAIL

During disasters (wildfires, storms, earthquakes):

- ✗ Cell service may be overloaded or down.
- ✗ Internet may be unavailable.
- ✗ Power outages stop charging devices.

WHAT STILL WORKS?

RADIO

STAY CONNECTED WHEN IT MATTERS MOST

Emergency Communications for Neighborhoods & Communities

LOCAL COMMUNICATIONS: START HERE (NO LICENSE REQUIRED)



MURS RADIOS FOR NEIGHBORHOOD GROUPS

- Simple, push-to-talk radios
- No license required
- Ideal for Firewise, CERT, and neighborhood teams
- Works locally when phones don't

IMPORTANT: PROGRAMMING MATTERS

To communicate with other local county groups:

- Radios MUST be programmed correctly
- Matches County and CERT channels
- Enables coordination during emergencies

LOCAL RESOURCE FOR RADIOS & TRAINING

SLVEN
SAN LORENZO VALLEY EMERGENCY NETWORK

San Lorenzo Valley Emergency Network (SLVEN)

- ✓ Discount MURS radios for groups
- ✓ Pre-programmed radios available
- ✓ Hands-on training

https://www.slven.org/nextmeeting

HOW MESSAGES REACH THE EOC

MURS IS LOCAL — HAM RADIO EXTENDS THE REACH

MURS radios work within your neighborhood.
To reach the Emergency Operations Center (EOC), messages are relayed by:

- Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES)
- Community Emergency Response Team (CERT)
- Local licensed ham radio operators



- ✓ Higher-powered radios
- ✓ Trained operators

HOW IT WORKS

1. Neighborhood uses MURS radios
2. Ham operator relays the message
3. Message reaches the EOC Radio Room.



This creates communication even when everything else is down.

READY TO GO FURTHER? BECOME A HAM RADIO OPERATOR

GET YOUR LICENSE

- ✓ No Morse code required
- ✓ Entry-level exam is achievable

Study & practice: **hamstudy.org**

SCHEDULE YOUR EXAM

Online or in-person testing available

surfexams.net

LOCAL CLASS (SANTA CRUZ AREA)

Starts **October 22**
6-week course

- ✓ Covers everything you need to pass the exam
- ✓ Followed by local testing

SIMPLE PLAN FOR YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD

1. Build a contact list (phone/email)
2. Get MURS radios
3. Program radios correctly
4. Assign a channel
5. Practice regular check-ins
6. Connect with a ham operator

QUESTIONS? GET CONNECTED!

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HAPPY VALLEY NEIGHBORHOOD MURS GROUP

Join us for updates, training & community communication.

Come Join the Fun— and Be Prepared!

Learn new skills, meet your neighbors, and build a communication network that works when it matters most.

★ BE INFORMED. BE CONNECTED. BE PREPARED. ★ TOGETHER, WE STAY CONNECTED!