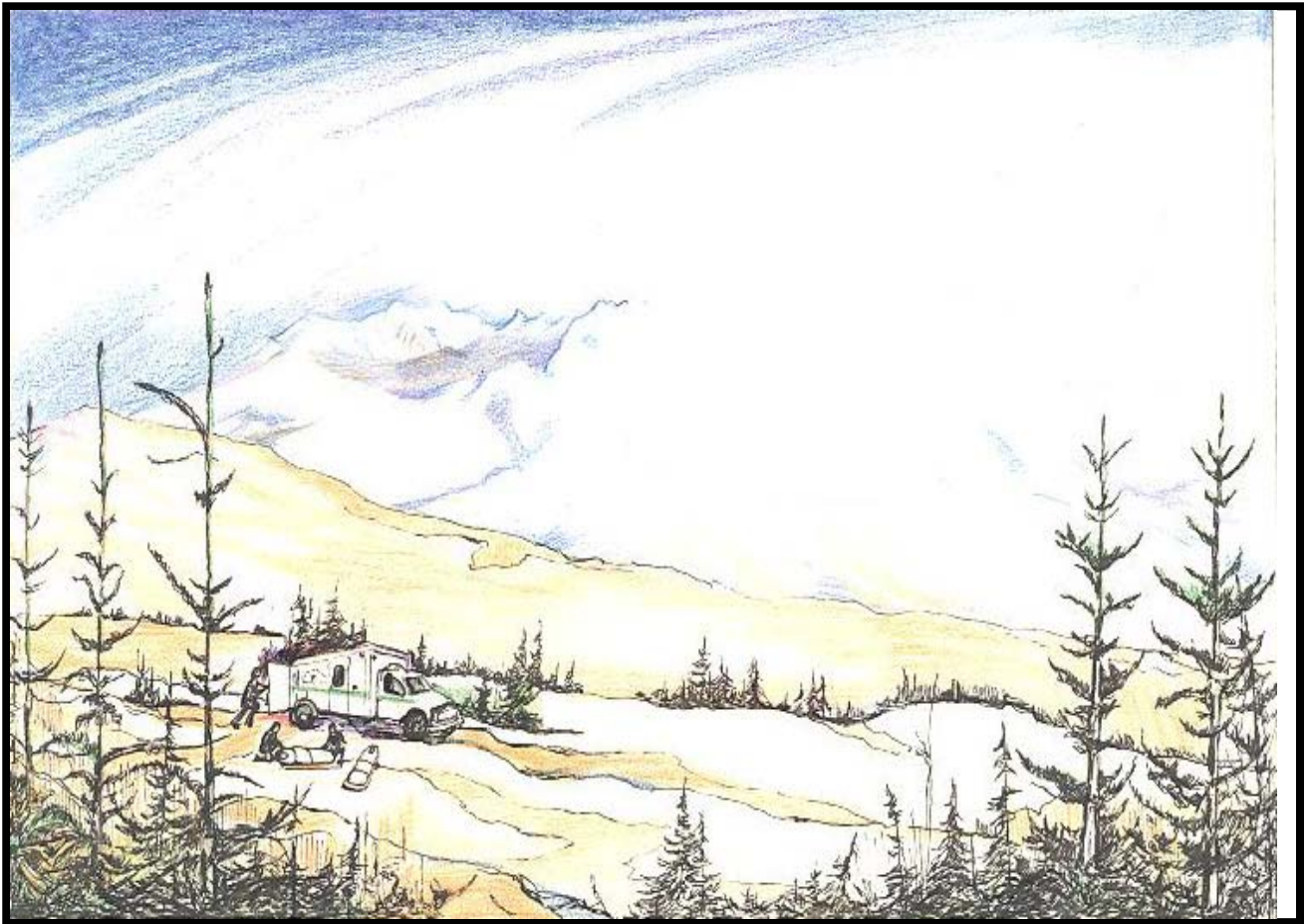


# Volcano Rescue Team

## Application Packet





# VOLCANO RESCUE TEAM



## Introduction

The Volcano Rescue Team (VRT) was formed in 1986 under the auspices of North Country EMS. This organization provided a resource to handle mountain-related incidents with the opening of Mt. St. Helens to climbing. The team still operates under the NCEMS umbrella, but is totally volunteer and is self-supporting. The VRT has acquired team equipment through fundraisers and grants but members provide all of their own personal equipment, the cost of which can easily exceed \$1,000.

The role of the team has broadened somewhat since its inception, and now provides hasty search teams and other rescue operations around the mountain and NCEMS's service district. This is in addition to its role as a technical mountain rescue organization. The VRT is an accredited member of and follows the training guidelines of the Mountain Rescue Association (MRA).

The members are highly trained in all aspects of rescue and emergency medical services. The training received by the VRT members meets all the requirements of the Washington Administrative Code (WAC) for search teams. In addition, the training goes well beyond search training to include all aspects of mountain rescue, cave rescue, avalanche SAR, high angle rescue, crevasse rescue, etc.

VRT members progress through four stages of membership; beginning with "unequipped" and progressing to "trainee", "support", and finally to "rescue". All members in the Support and above category must have their full complement of equipment and clothing, and have it ready for immediate use.

The VRT is designed to be a rapid response group. Members are alerted to respond to the fire station or a set location immediately upon receipt of the rescue information; therefore, applicants living in close proximity to the area are preferred. They must be equipped to be self sufficient for 24 hours under any condition.

Some VRT members are also members of the NCEMS and work as volunteers with the ambulance service. They therefore have, in addition to their EMS training, received practical experience in dealing with patients and treating medical emergencies. A minimum of the First Responder Course is encouraged and offered for all members without any first aid training; however, most members of the VRT are EMTs and Paramedics.

Persons desiring to volunteer for the Volcano Rescue Team must be physically fit to a level determined by a physical agility test. While no prior mountaineering experience is necessary, it is helpful, and preference is given to those applicants with outdoor experience and training. Regular monthly classroom and field training sessions are required for all members.

## Volcano Rescue Team Application Process

The Volcano Rescue Team accepts applications throughout the year and actively recruits twice a year. Applicant testing is conducted either twice a year; if enough applications are received outside of the anticipated testing dates a test session will be scheduled. The number of new team members accepted is based on the team's needs at the time of testing. No experience is necessary and all training is provided. The following is an outline of past recruitment process.

1. The first step is to complete a mile and half run held at the local school. The course is timed, with the times based upon the national fitness standard for age. This test is pass or fail.
2. The next step is a simulated patient evacuation conducted at a local park. This test is also pass or fail. Although timed, there is no time limit.
3. The final step is an informal interview. This is an opportunity for our team members to find out your background/experience with the outdoors and discuss the membership requirements.

Please contact me with further questions, comments or concerns regarding any aspect of the testing or membership requirements.

Stephen Schutts  
Volcano Rescue Team Coordinator  
NCEMS EMT-P

[S.Schutts@NorthCountryEMS.org](mailto:S.Schutts@NorthCountryEMS.org)  
Phone # 360-686-3271

# Volcano Rescue Team

## APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS

1. Your complete application packet should include the attached signed application and authorization for release of information.
2. Your application should be typed or printed legibly in ink. Answer all questions as completely as possible.
3. If a question does not apply to you, enter “N/A” in the space provided.
4. Attach additional sheets as necessary if there is insufficient space provided for you to answer questions completely.
5. An accurate and complete form will help expedite our investigation. Deliberate omissions or falsifications may result in disqualification or termination.
6. All information contained in this application is confidential and may be shared only with the top administrators of the department.
7. If you have any questions regarding the questionnaire, background investigation or application process, please contact Steve Schutts or Tom McDowell at North Country EMS at  
(360) 686-3271.

**In this packet, you will find the following material:**

Application Instructions  
Application Form  
Authorization for release of information  
Sample VRT equipment list

**Application for:**  
**North Country EMS**  
**Clark County Fire District 13**  
**Volcano Rescue Team**

Date Application Received _____ By: _____
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**PERSONAL HISTORY STATEMENT**

Information provided in this section is used for identification purposes only.

Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Position Applying For: \_\_\_\_\_

Name (First, Middle, Last): \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Numbers: Home \_\_\_\_\_ Cell \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Can you provide proof of Citizenship, VISA, or alien registration number after being hired which permits you to work in the U.S.?      Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

Do you use tobacco of any kind?      Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

**TRAFFIC RECORD**

Driver's License number & State of issue: \_\_\_\_\_ **(Attach copy)**

Restrictions or Endorsements: \_\_\_\_\_

List all types of motorized vehicles you can operate, along with your proficiency level:

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Has your driver's license ever been suspended or revoked? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_  
If yes, give date location and details below.

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List, to the best of your knowledge, all driving citations you have received as an adult or juvenile, excluding parking tickets.

Date	Charge	City/State	Disposition
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Describe in a brief narrative any traffic accident in which you have been involved, giving approximate date and location.

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**CRIMINAL RECORD**

Have you ever been convicted of a crime? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_. If yes, provide the following information.

Date	Crime	Police Agency, City & State	Sentence
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**EDUCATION HISTORY**

<u>High School</u>	<u>City, State</u>	Dates Attended <u>From / To</u>	Graduated <u>Yes / No</u>
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____

<u>College/University</u>	<u>City, State</u>	Dates Attended <u>From / To</u>	Graduated <u>Yes / No</u>
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____

Units Completed: \_\_\_\_\_ Major/Minor: \_\_\_\_\_

Degree Received: \_\_\_\_\_ Student I.D.  
# \_\_\_\_\_

Are you currently / or have you ever been a nationally registered paramedic? Yes / No  
**(please attach Copy of certification)**

Are you currently a Washington state certified paramedic? Yes / No

List counties of endorsement \_\_\_\_\_ **(Attach Copy of certification)**

Are you currently a Washington State EMT? Yes / No (indicate level)  
\_\_\_\_\_

List any other major courses of pre-hospital management / certifications (BCLS, ACLS, PHTLS, etc.):  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

List any training and/or experience you have in wilderness rescue, EMS training, fire suppression, etc. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

List or explain any other education, training or experience that would be helpful in rating your ability to perform in this position. **Attach copies of any certifications listed.**  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**EMPLOYMENT HISTORY**

Beginning with your present or most recent employer, list your last three jobs.  
Also include any related professional or volunteer experience on a separate sheet if necessary.

**Present Employer:** \_\_\_\_\_ From \_\_\_\_\_ To \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Supervisor: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Position / Job duties: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Reason for leaving: \_\_\_\_\_

**Employer:** \_\_\_\_\_ From \_\_\_\_\_ To \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Supervisor: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Position / Job duties: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Reason for leaving: \_\_\_\_\_

**Employer:** \_\_\_\_\_ From \_\_\_\_\_ To \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Supervisor: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Position / Job duties: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Reason for leaving: \_\_\_\_\_

In more detail describe your related work experience and explain how you think you are qualified for this position. You may use the space below or attach additional sheets.

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**REFERENCES:**

List three personal references. Do not list relatives or current or past employers.

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Business Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Occupation / Employer \_\_\_\_\_ Years known: \_\_\_\_\_

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Business Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Occupation / Employer \_\_\_\_\_ Years known: \_\_\_\_\_

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Business Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Occupation / Employer \_\_\_\_\_ Years known: \_\_\_\_\_

**CERTIFICATION**

I hereby certify that there are no willful misrepresentations, omissions, or falsifications in the foregoing statements and answers to questions. I am fully aware that any such misrepresentations, omissions or falsifications will be ground for immediate rejection or termination of employment.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Applicant

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

# NORTH COUNTRY EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICE VOLCANO RESCUE TEAM

## AUTHORIZATION FOR RELEASE OF INFORMATION

I hereby authorize North Country EMS and Volcano Rescue Team to conduct a complete background investigation for the purpose of verifying the information contained in my application for the position that I have applied for. I further acknowledge and agree that North Country EMS and Volcano Rescue Team may:

1. Contact my present or former employers.
2. Confirm the status of my driver's license and driving record.
3. Inquire into any criminal convictions on my record.
4. Contact any personal references provided.
5. Verify my educational background and training.

I specifically authorize any person, firm, or corporation contacted by North Country EMS and Volcano Rescue Team to release any of the above records to the Districts and waive any privilege of confidentiality I may have with respects to said records.

Dated this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_\_\_\_

Place of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_

Social Security Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Full Name Printed: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

# SAMPLE VRT EQUIPMENT LIST

Dear Applicant,

This list is enclosed for you to get an idea of the equipment you will need to advance from “Unequipped” status to “Trainee” status. This move allows you to participate with field training and missions.

**DO NOT PURCHASE ANYTHING PRIOR TO TALKING WITH VRT COORDINATOR REGARDING THIS EQUIPMENT.**

## TRAINEE

### Clothing

- Synthetic / Wool socks 2 pair**
- Synthetic / Wool gloves 2 pair**
- Synthetic / Wool hat**
- Synthetic / Wool top & bottoms**
- Fleece / Wool jacket & pants**
- Waterproof Jacket & pants**
- Waterproof gloves / mitts**
- Gaiters**
- Three season boots (waterproof & insulated)**

### Equipment

- Daypack (2500 cubic inches minimum)**
- Tarp (5' x 7' minimum, larger if no bivvy sack or tent)**
- Headlamp**
- Spare batteries**
- Sunglasses**
- Pocketknife**
- Sunscreen – 30 spf minimum**
- 2 one – quart water bottles**
  
- Backpack w/pack cover or bag to keep dry (4000 cubic inches minimum)
- Sleeping bag (synthetic and rated to 0 degrees)
- 50' 3mm synthetic cord
- Flashlight w/ extra batteries
- Candle
- Matches in waterproof container
- Fire starter
- First Aid Kit
- Compass
- Plastic whistle

- Plastic garbage bags – 2
- Non perishable food (24 hours)
- Emergency food (shelf life > 1 year)
- Flagging (bright color)
- Leather gloves

**SUPPORT**

- Water filter
- Extra clothes
- Bivvy sack / tent
- Stove
- Cooking set
- Insulated cup / mug
- Helmet
- Ice axe
- St Helens pre – plan map
- Goggles
- GPS

**RESCUE**

- Four season boots

**MOUNTAINEER**

- Crampons
- Climbing harness
- Self rescue equipment

**MISC.**

- Bug repellent
- Snowshoes
- Toilet paper
- Lip balm

**FIRST AID KIT**

- |               |                         |
|---------------|-------------------------|
| 5 – 4X4's     | Trauma Shears           |
| 5 – 5x9's     | Sam splint              |
| 1 – 2" Tape   | *Stethoscope*           |
| 1 – 4" Kling  | Mole skin / blister kit |
| 1 – 2" Kling  | 2 – Triangle Bandages   |
| 5 – Band Aids |                         |
| CPR Shield    |                         |
| CPR Shield    | Non latex gloves        |