

Course Scheduling Information

For open enrollment Introduction to Search team Officership course visit www.wildernesseri.com.

To set up a course or if you have a question contact -
Wilderness Emergency Response Institute, LLC.
PO Box 24
Windber, PA 15963
814-659-7017
administration@wildernesseri.com

Wilderness Emergency Response Institute, LLC
PO Box 24
Windber, PA 15963



Introduction to Search Team Officership

16-Hour Course

The Discipline

Training is available for all levels of search responder from the beginner just getting involved in search and rescue to the crew leaders to individuals involved in search management. The one area of training that is always overlooked is the training for search team officers.

A majority of a search team officer's responsibilities and duties are of the non-emergency type. Search team officers, whether they are entry-level officers to the Chief of a team, have a considerable responsibility to manage the search team properly and affectively.

To manage a search team one needs special training in areas other than emergency response. To accomplish the job requirements of an officer, an individual needs to be trained in leadership techniques, management styles, standards organizations and public education just to name a few. To begin the training of officers, the course Introduction to Search Team Officership was created.

Introduction to Search Team Officership is the first course that focuses on the non-emergency tasks of the search team officer. This course is designed to take an individual that has experience in search and rescue and prepare them for an entry-level officer position.

The Course

The course Introduction to Search Team Officership is a 16-hour course that provides initial training in the non-emergency tasks. The course consists of 8 hours of lecture covering the basic concepts of search strategy and tactics as it relates to small units, creating a control system using standard operating procedures, an examination of the ways to handle the vast array of human resource (people) issues that arise in a search and rescue organization, awareness level training in public education programs, examination of recruitment and retention techniques, procedures for disciplining individuals, search team operations and organizational concepts, pre search planning activities, the importance and procedures for situational awareness and creating in house training programs.

The second half of the course includes four hours of training in advanced navigation and high hazard terrain negotiation and four hours hands on skills involving in house training presentations. During the final 8 hours of the course, the student is given hands on skills with advanced navigation skills and hazardous terrain negotiation (crossing hazardous areas with safety rope backups) and all students will be required to teach a 10

minute training session directed towards search responders.

General Information

All students that successfully pass the course will receive a certificate of completion. All students are required to bring material for taking notes. Wilderness Emergency Response Institute provides all other materials.

This class is offered in both open enrollment and contract style offering. To hosting agency must provide a classroom facility with the capability to show PowerPoint presentation and a practical location to allow for the hazardous terrain negotiation skills station.

Prerequisites

To attend the Introduction to Search Team Officership, an individual needs to have taken the NASAR Introduction to Search and Rescue Course or the PA DCNR Course Wilderness Search and Rescue Search Responder course or equivalent. It is also recommended but not required that a student in the Introduction to Search Team Officership course has had 2 years of experience in Search and Rescue.