



# Emergency Management

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**The Department of Emergency Management is made up of five divisions:**

## **Emergency Management**

The Emergency Management Division helps Pierce County plan for, respond to, recover from, mitigate and prepare for emergencies and disasters. We have public education, training, exercise, planning, mitigation, and recovery and response experts that work with partnering agencies, residents and businesses. We work closely with the state Emergency Management Division, the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and the Department of Homeland Security.

## **Enhanced 9-1-1 Program**

The Enhanced 9-1-1 Program Office supports and manages the administration of the county-wide enhanced 9-1-1 system. Services include technical support to the various public safety communications centers, public safety answering points (PSAPs) and revenue distribution for equipment purchase and system maintenance. The Enhanced 9-1-1 Program Office has the responsibility of maintaining the Master Street Address Guide (MSAG) for all of Pierce County.

## **Fire Prevention Bureau**

The Pierce County Fire Prevention Bureau exists to provide a safer environment for the citizens of Pierce County. Our mission is to prevent the loss of life and property caused by fire or explosion and to enforce the provisions of legally adopted fire codes. Our tools are public education, enforcement of codes and ordinances related to fire and life safety, and fire investigation.

## **Radio Communications**

The Radio Communications Division maintains the radio communications system, electronic emergency equipment, traffic radar, closed circuit video cameras/monitors and associated equipment throughout Pierce County, including the Sheriff's Department and Public Works and Utilities.

Responsibilities include:

- Acquisition, installation, repair and preventative maintenance of all radio equipment and systems.
- Acts as a liaison with other government and private entities to ensure coordination and to protect against radio frequency interference in communications systems.
- Maintains appropriate licenses and insures the system meets federal and state requirements.



## **Washington State Urban Search and Rescue Task Force (WA-TF1)**

The Washington Task Force 1 (WA-TF1) was established in 1991 and currently consists of members from 22 agencies from three primary jurisdictions: Seattle Fire, King County, and Pierce County. WA-TF1 members work in four areas of specialization: search, to find victims trapped after a disaster; rescue, which includes safely digging victims out of tons of collapsed concrete and metal; technical, made up of structural specialists who make rescues safe for the rescuers; and medical, which cares for the victims before and after a rescue.

**The team comprises over 210 team members, drawn from a variety of organizations including fire departments, hospitals, law enforcement and public works agencies in the City of Seattle, King County and Pierce County. Canine teams accompany WA-TF1 members on all deployments.**