

Northampton County Emergency Operations Plan

3.9 ESF #9 - Search and Rescue

Primary Departments

Northampton County Sheriff's Office

Support Department

Northampton County Fire Companies
Northampton County EMS
Northampton County Emergency Management

Other Support Agencies

Virginia State Police
USCG – Cape Charles
Civil Air Patrol
Eastern Shore of Virginia 911
Tidewater Technical Rescue Team
Eastern Shore of Virginia Flatland Rescue Team

Purpose

The ESF #9 (Search and Rescue) annex establishes how search and rescue activities will be coordinated to meet the needs generated by disasters affecting Northampton County.

Scope

This annex identifies the key policies, concepts of operations, roles and responsibilities, and capabilities associated with ESF #9 (Search and Rescue) in Northampton County. Specific operating procedures and protocols are addressed in documents maintained by the participating departments/agencies.

Potential operations include the following:

- Structural collapse search and rescue
- Waterborne search and rescue
- Inland/Wilderness search and rescue
- Aeronautical search and rescue

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ESF #9 (Search and Rescue) Primary Departments	Roles/Tasks
Preparedness	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conduct training and exercises with County and state stakeholders. • Coordinate planning with ESF #9 (Search and Rescue) support agencies, Regional Domestic Security task forces, and other ESFs to refine search and rescue operations. • Prepare and maintain SOPs, resource inventories, personnel rosters, and resource mobilization information necessary for the implementation of the responsibilities of the lead agency. • Develop and implement emergency response and search and rescue strategies.
Response – Initial Actions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Report to the EOC or make initial contact with the EOC via telephone within one hour of activation, or as directed. • Implement procedures to notify and mobilize all personnel, facilities, and physical resources likely to be needed, based on the emergency circumstance. • Request response resources when it is apparent that fire search and rescue resources will be necessary. • Establish and maintain a system to support on-scene direction, control, and coordination with the County EOC, regional task force, and VA-EOC.
Response – Continuing Actions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Relocate fire search and rescue resources when it is apparent that they are endangered by the likely impacts of the emergency situation. • Monitor and direct search and rescue resources and response activities. Participate in EOC briefings and meetings, and aid in the development of IAPs and Situation Reports. • Coordinate with support agencies, as needed, to support emergency activities.
Recovery	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue to provide support, as required, until response activities are concluded or until they can be managed and staffed by the primary incident agency or jurisdictions. • Continue to provide support, as required, to support the recovery phase.

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ESF #9 (Search and Rescue) Support Department	Roles/Tasks
Northampton County Fire Companies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assist with search and rescue as needed.
Northampton County EMS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assist with search and rescue as needed.
Northampton County Emergency Management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Request state and federal resources to assist in search and rescue. • Document expenditures for reimbursement purposes.
ESF #9 (Search and Rescue) Other Support Agencies	Roles/Tasks
Tidewater Technical Rescue Team	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide technical resources for specific rescue operations.
Virginia State Police	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide resources for ground searches and marine searches. • Coordinate with County stakeholders on strategy and search and rescue operations. • Provide perimeter security. • Provide traffic control.
USCG – Cape Charles	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assist with marine-based search and rescue.
Civil Air Patrol	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide air support resources.
Eastern Shore of Virginia 911	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide communication support for search and rescue operations.
Eastern Shore of Virginia Flatland Rescue Team	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide resources and staffing to assist with land search and rescue operations.