

LOS ANGELES COUNTY DISASTER COMMUNICATIONS SERVICE

LACDCS was first formed by County Ordinance in 1951, and has received many commendations for its services to Los Angeles County. Several operators have over 30 years of continuous service in DCS. All of their personal expenses are paid for by the individual as required by Federal Law. Currently, the membership contributes approximately 110,000 hours yearly. At \$30 per hour, this means that well over three million dollars of free service is contributed to the county yearly by your Amateur Radio friends and neighbors.



A few of the capabilities of the Disaster Communications Service are:

- Six Voice Repeaters
- World Wide Digital Network
- Amateur Television Network
- Portable Repeater Systems
- Simplex Radio Operations
- Satellite Communications
- Emergency Response
- Message handling
- Operations
- Logistical Support
- Planning and Intelligence
- Finance and Accounting
- Fellowship



For more information contact the
Los Angeles County
Disaster Communications Service
by calling **(323) 980-2246**
or visit us on the web at
<http://www.lacdc.org>



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**LOS ANGELES COUNTY
DISASTER COMMUNICATIONS
SERVICE**

Become a Volunteer
Disaster Services Worker
in
Communications



Join the
Los Angeles County
Disaster Communications
Service

For More Information
Look Inside

LOS ANGELES COUNTY DISASTER COMMUNICATIONS SERVICE (LACDCS) is a volunteer organization administered by the Sheriff's Department for the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors. The responsibility of DCS, as authorized under County Ordinance, is to provide volunteer disaster relief communications for the citizens of Los Angeles County.

Over 900 Amateur Radio operators, operating their personally owned two-way radios in conformance with the Regulations of the Federal Communications Commission, donate their time and equipment at no cost to the Taxpayers of Los Angeles County. Amateur Radio equipment installed at each Sheriff's Station is owned by the County, as is a mountain top repeater station and a mobile command trailer. All other equipment is owned by individual members, or by volunteer organizations formed by the DCS members.

Many members hold high level technical and professional jobs and have very specialized skills that are invaluable to the organization. All mechanical and electrical installations on DCS owned equipment are done by group members at no cost to the County.



During disasters, such as the Northridge Earthquake of January 1994, DCS members provided auxiliary communications between County Departments and City Governments. They also provide backup communications to agencies such as Fire, Police, Red Cross and between other agencies that do not share common communications. During the first days after the Northridge Earthquake, the only link Granada Hills Community Hospital had with the outside world and city government was through Amateur Radio provided by DCS members.

DCS members have been active in many other public service events such as the 1984 Olympics, the Baker To Vegas Challenge Cup Relay Race, the Police Summer Games, The City of Hope Run/Bike-a-thon, the War Eagle Relay, Election ballot transportation communications, and in the yearly Tournament of Roses Parade. They have also assisted in disasters such as the Mexico City, Landers, Whittier and Northridge Earthquakes, and the Altadena and Malibu Fires, to mention just a few.

The September 11, 2001 terrorist attack on the United States tested the preparedness of America's military and civilian response establishments. The readiness of her volunteer organizations to "step-up to the plate" and assist where needed were also tested.



During emergencies, Amateur Radio Operators living or working in Los Angeles County have taken time off from work without compensation. They have made their Operational Facilities available; served as NET Control Operators; worked in the Los Angeles County Emergency Operations Center; and have worked shifts at District Sheriff's Stations. DCS personnel happily volunteer their services to the citizens of Los Angeles County while balancing their personal and professional lives. Many more volunteers are needed! **WE NEED YOU!**

As Americans, our way of life will be tested again. As Americans, our will to persist will be tested again. As Americans, our willingness to fight for the ideals we believe in will be tested again. As Americans, our tolerance for others will be tested again. As Americans, we must be prepared to protect ourselves. Are you prepared?

The uniform worn by Disaster Communication Service volunteers represents a proud tradition—Service to the people of the County of Los Angeles in time of need. As DCS members they represent a more experienced, more mature, and more diverse resource within the Sheriff's Department than is available within any other branch of the County Government

We have an obligation and a duty to make our resources available for the welfare of the public. If you are a licensed Amateur Radio Operator, or would like to become one, and you have not "stepped up to the plate," now is the time! Join LACDCS now.



**DCS -
Helping Others
Communicate**