



Welcome to the Medical Reserve Corps!



Objectives



- ❑ Describe the Medical Reserve Corps at the national and local level.
- ❑ Review potential reasons for volunteer activation.
- ❑ Outline activation procedure.
- ❑ Explain the Responder Manager System.
- ❑ Review possible volunteer roles.
- ❑ Describe the incident management structure.
- ❑ Introduce the importance of maintaining a personal or family preparedness plan.

What is an MRC?



Volunteers Building Strong, Healthy, Prepared Communities.

- The Medical Reserve Corps is a community-based, civilian; volunteer program that helps build the public health infrastructure of communities nationwide. Each MRC unit is organized and trained to address a wide range of challenges from public health education to disaster response.



MRC History



- The national network of MRCs was founded in 2002 following the response to the events of 9/11.
- Nationally headquartered in the Office of U.S. Surgeon General.
- Enable credentialing and training of volunteers so that they are able to be utilized immediately during a disaster.
- Designed to be community-based to meet community needs.

Over 800 Units and over 300,000 MRC volunteers



MRCs at a National Level



- MRC is housed within the Readiness Division, Office of Emergency Management and Medical Operations, Administration for Strategic Preparedness and Response (ASPR.)
- ASPR falls under the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. The Surgeon General leads MRC.



MRCs in Vermont



- In Vermont, Medical Reserve Corps are supported through the Vermont Department of Health.
- Many of these indicated organizations work together during incidents and events to provide a more efficient and effective response.



Vermont Department of Health

What makes Medical Reserve Corps different?

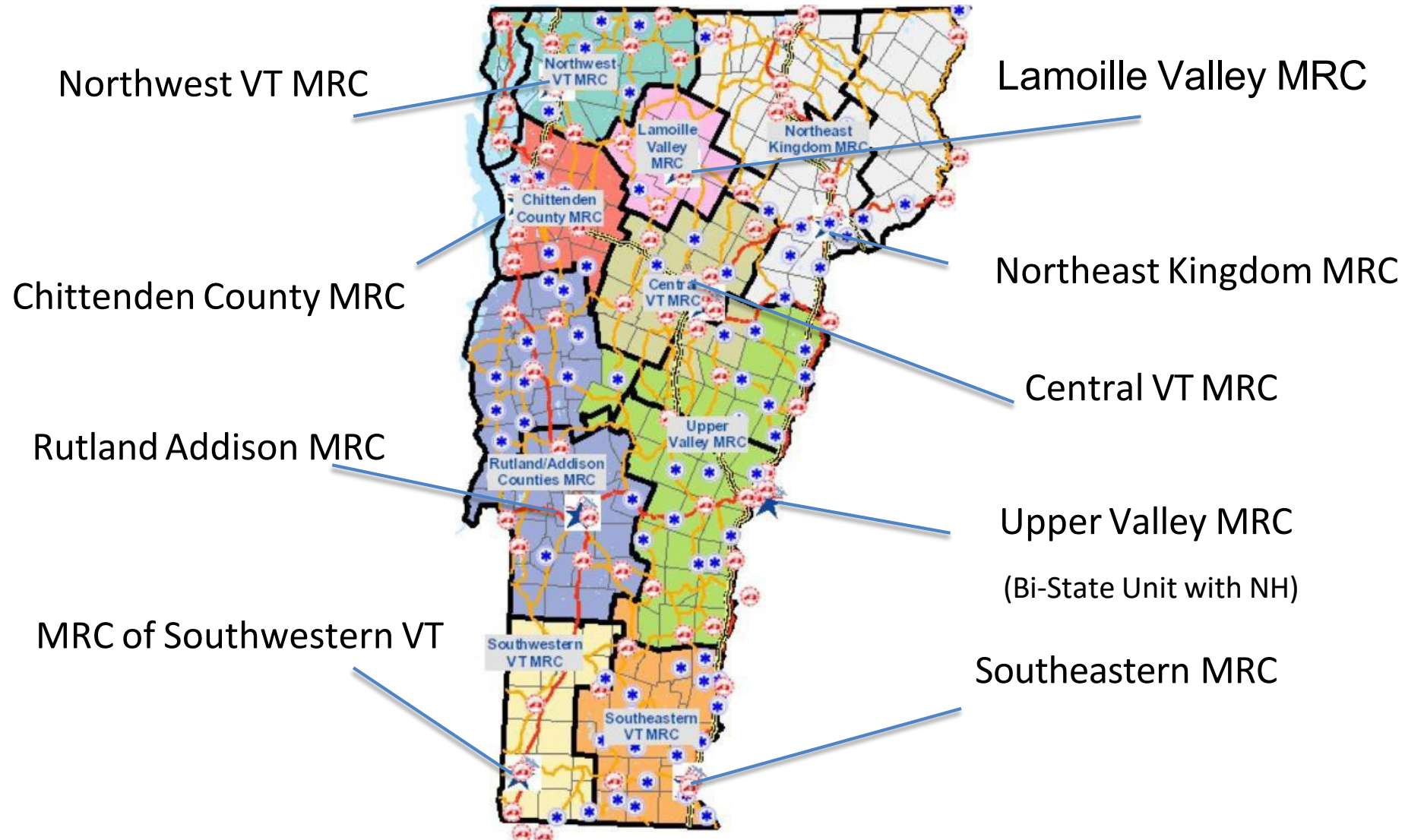


- Medical Reserve Corps address **public health** needs both in response to a disaster and in building community resilience.
- Community Emergency Response Teams (CERTs) are trained in basic **disaster response** skills, including: fire safety, light search and rescue, and team organization. CERT members can assist neighborhoods following an event when professional responders are not immediately available.
- Disaster Animal Response Teams (DARTs) are trained to **shelter animals** who are victims of illegal animal cruelty and natural disasters.
- SerVermont is a volunteer labor pool to connect **unaffiliated volunteers** with certain skills with organizations needing volunteers during emergencies.



Vermont MRCs are encouraged to collaborate with each of these organizations as they see most beneficial.

9 MRC Units in Vermont



Some of our amazing Unit Coordinators



- ❑ Most Unit Coordinators are Emergency Preparedness Specialists affiliated with the Vermont Department of Health's local Health Districts.
- ❑ MRC service areas correspond to the local Health Districts' boundaries.
- ❑ A handful of MRC Units also use volunteer leadership to oversee community activities or to assist with administrative duties.



What makes up a MRC Unit?



- **Volunteers!**
Medical and non-medical volunteers are the heart of the Medical Reserve Corps.
- **Unit Coordinator**
Leads MRC operations in a region
Coordinates volunteers and resources during activities and events.
Develops community partnerships, recruits and trains volunteers, and acquires funding through grants and donations.
- **Fiscal Agent**
Manages unit's finances
- **Advisory Board**
 - Meets to guide unit and identify needs
 - Comprised of community members representing:
 - Area hospitals
 - Emergency Response (FD, PD, EMS)
 - Emergency managers and planners
 - Special interest groups
 - American Red Cross
 - Other health and emergency response organizations

Volunteer Activation



- MRC Volunteers can participate in a wide variety of public health activities, and are not limited to emergency incidents.
- Volunteers receive liability and worker's compensation coverage through the Vermont Department of Health.
- Possible Activations include:
 - ▣ Points of Distribution (PODs)/Vaccination clinics for mass prophylaxis
 - ▣ Medical Surge – respond to hospital surge incidents at offsite location
 - ▣ Preparedness and public health outreach activities
 - ▣ First Aid Stations during Local festivals and events
 - ▣ Preventative health clinics (Screenings)
 - ▣ Sheltering, specifically cold and hot weather, regional emergency shelters

Non-emergency Activities



Pedestrian Safety Reflector Distribution



Event Support for Road Races and Fairs



Clothing Giveaway



Assisted Therapy Dogs with Crisis Training Certification

Additional Non-Emergency Activities



Cooling Tent



Rabies Vaccine Bait Drop Project



Car Safety Kits and Training for New Drivers



Stop the Bleed Training for the Public

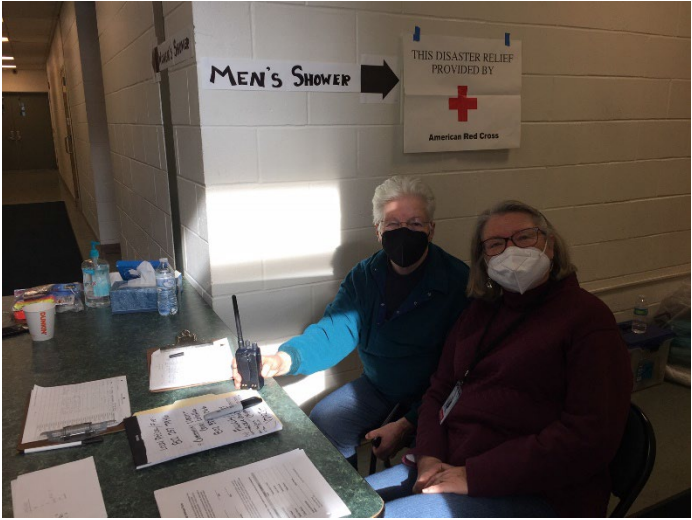


Vaccine Clinic for New Americans

Health and Preparedness Outreach



Emergency Activities



Becoming an MRC Volunteer



- Use OnCallforVT Brand and Portal to Recruit

- Please visit

Oncallforvt.org

To Learn More

The screenshot shows the OnCallforVT website interface. At the top left is the 'OnCall FOR VERMONT' logo. Below it are two menu items: '» EMS' with sub-links 'HOW TO JOIN', 'TRAINING', and 'WHAT TO EXPECT'; and '» MRC' with sub-links 'HOW TO JOIN', 'TRAINING', and 'WHAT TO EXPECT'. To the right is a banner for 'MEDICAL RESERVE CORPS' with a star icon and a 'READY TO JOIN? FIND YOUR NEAREST MRC UNIT »' button. Below the banner is a photo of three women in high-visibility vests. To the right of the photo is a text box: 'Vermont's Medical Reserve Corps (MRC) units are community-based groups of volunteers who supplement local emergency and public health resources with their existing skills.' Below this is a paragraph: 'They receive training in emergency preparedness, prepare for and respond to emergencies, and support Health Department initiatives. MRC volunteers come from a variety of backgrounds (medical and non-medical) and contribute as much time as their schedules allow. Some volunteers take pride in putting it on their resume, while others find satisfaction from putting their skills to good use to benefit others.' At the bottom right is an 'Ask a Question' form with three radio buttons: 'I'm interested in EMS', 'I'm interested in MRC', and 'I'm interested in both EMS and MRC'. Below the buttons are input fields for 'Your Name', 'Email', and 'Town', and a text area for 'What is Your Question?'.

In an emergency, your neighbor may need a hand. How about yours?

Responder Management System



- All members of an MRC in Vermont are registered via the Responder Management System

<https://rms.vermont.gov/>

- This system captures your demographics and contact information.
- It also verifies professional license information you may hold, credentialing you and enabling you to immediately response to a disaster.
- Unit Coordinators utilize this system for communications, both routine and emergency alerting.

VERMONT VOLUNTEER RESPONDER MANAGEMENT SYSTEM

OnCall VERMONT DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

medical reserve corps

Home About MRC Training What to Expect Map Locator News & Events

Protect the health of your community. Join. Train. Respond.

The Vermont Department of Health's Volunteer Responder Management System (RMS) is the secure registration, credential verification, and notification system for public health emergency response volunteers.

This system is utilized by Vermont's Medical Reserve Corps (MRC) units to ensure successful disaster response and deployment of needed, qualified, and available volunteers. Medical Reserve Corps units are community-based groups of volunteers that use their wide range of skills to support local public health and emergency response efforts. Those interested in joining the MRC will need to register in the Health Department's RMS to ensure volunteers can be notified of disaster at a moment's notice. Use the button to the right to register and visit OnCallorVT.org to find out more about the Medical Reserve Corps and the unit nearest you.

This registration tool is part of the national Emergency System for Advanced Registration of Volunteer Healthcare Professionals (ESAR-VHP). The MRC and other organizations within the RMS use the system so that they may collect volunteer's contact information, skills, credentials, and send alerts to their volunteers when needed.

Member Login

Username:

Password:

Forgot Username or Password?

Log In

Sign Up Today

REGISTER

Recruitment Process



- Once a profile is created in the Responder Management System, prospective volunteers are sent an orientation package.
- All volunteers are background checked to ensure they may safely work the public.
- Those who have lived in the state fewer than 5 years are also fingerprinted.
- Any with professional licenses are cross-checked in professional databases (if you hold a license, it is critical that you enter your license number and expiration in the Responder Management System).

Expectations of New MRC Volunteers



Respond

- Your participation in call-down drills and alerts increases readiness and enables us to identify gaps in communication.

Train

- Mandatory trainings give us a baseline so that our community trusts our volunteers have basic, necessary skills to be successful.
- Optional trainings as your interest and availability allow.

Participate

- Emergency and non-emergency events, as your skills and availability allow.
- Offer your skills as a trainer or presenter with your unit.

Communicate

- We want your feedback about how to make MRC better and more responsive to community needs. Meetings and surveys are the tools we use to communicate.

MRC Member Trainings



▣ Basic Volunteer Trainings

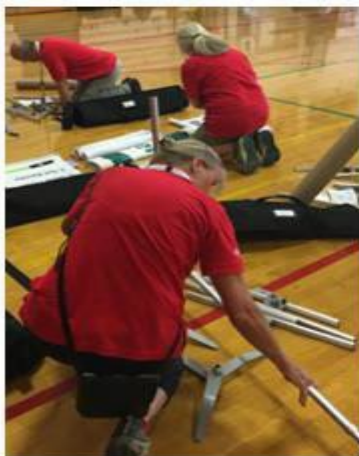
- HIPAA
- Bloodborne Pathogens
- IS 100 ICS overview
- Personal Preparedness

▣ Active Volunteer Trainings

- Psychological First Aid
- CPR and First Aid
- IS-700 National Incident Management System
- Points of Distribution (POD) Overview

▣ Volunteer Leader Trainings

- IS 200 Basic Incident Command System
- IS 240 Leadership and Influence (or equivalent training on leadership)
- Instructor-level certifications



Additional Trainings



Additional trainings vary by unit according to volunteer interests and community needs. Some examples of popular trainings recently offered include:

- Stop the Bleed
- NARCAN / Naloxone Training
- Emergency Sheltering
- De-escalation
- Cold Weather Safety
- Warm Weather Safety
- Tick Safety
- Cultural Competence
- Working with Individuals with Disabilities
- Lead Safety
- Radon Safety
- Fall Prevention
- Suicide Prevention
- Advanced Directives
- Emergency Communications

Trainings may be offered in person, remotely, by units or statewide. Opportunities for volunteers to attend state-wide. Regional and national conferences also available.

Personal Preparedness

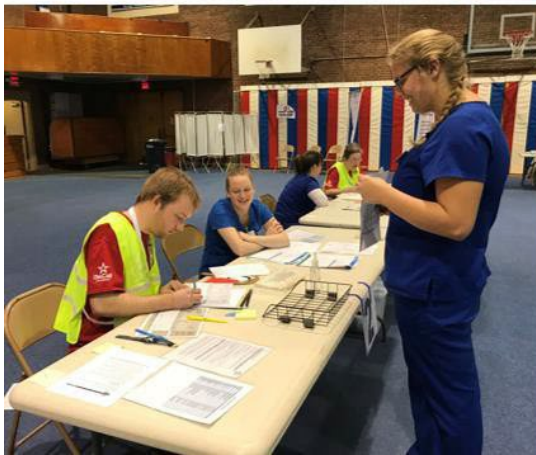
- When receiving the notification that the MRC is being activated:
 - ▣ Evaluate availability to respond
 - ▣ Activate your emergency plan
 - ▣ Report to the designated site at the specified time
- It is very important to have a family preparedness plan and kit in place. This way you are able to comfortably respond knowing your family is safe and prepared.
- Visit <http://www.ready.gov/make-a-plan> to create your plan and find the items to build a disaster supplies kit.



Annual MRC Training Summit



Points of Distribution (PODs) Exercises



Vermont Department of Health

Portable Hospital Training



Thank you,
and Welcome the Vermont's MRC!



Contact Information

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Visit **OnCallforVT.org** to
learn more.



**WILL YOU
ANSWER
THE CALL?**