

# WIDE AREA SEARCH

PER-213

Texas A&M Engineering Extension Service  
National Emergency Response and Rescue Training Center



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When disaster strikes it can be a challenge to effectively mobilize, organize, and deploy needed resources. The TEEX /NERRTC Wide Area Search course is an excellent training opportunity for nearly any jurisdiction or agency that may face such an emergency. The discipline applies to a vast number of critical situations including natural disasters or terrorist incidents. Participants are instructed in practical search methods and skills so they can perform systematic searches over a large affected area. The training includes challenging exercises that mirror real life scenarios. The three-day long event concludes with an in-depth exercise that requires participants to utilize the skills gained during the course. The trainers delivering the course are knowledgeable, experienced emergency responders who have actively utilized wide area search techniques during some of the Nation's largest and most challenging operations, such as Hurricanes Katrina, Ike, Gustav and Rita, the Space Shuttle Columbia recovery operation, and many other incidents that required these same comprehensive strategies.

The class is funded by the Department of Homeland Security/Federal Emergency Management Agency (DHS/FEMA) and is provided on-site for eligible jurisdictions throughout the United States.

## Topics:

- Preparedness and Response
- Search Management and Planning
- Mapping
- Search Strategies and Skills
- Communication
- Team Management
- Hands-on Exercise

## Training Level:

Performance

## Course Length:

3 days (24 hours)

## Venue:

Jurisdiction

## Class Size:

40 participants

## Course Hosting:

- The hosting jurisdiction must provide a full roster to TEEX at least one month before the beginning of the course.
- The hosting jurisdiction must provide classrooms and/or a training facility.

## Participant Audience:

Participant audience includes any agency that may respond to a major emergency, disaster or event, to include:

- Fire Department Responders
- Law Enforcement Officials
- Medical Professionals
- Emergency Management Agencies
- Military Organizations
- Hazardous Materials Responders
- Immigration and Naturalization
- Environmental Agencies
- Border Patrol
- Canine Handlers
- Alcohol Tobacco and Firearms
- Volunteer Responders: CERT, Red Cross, Disaster Relief, Animal Rescue, etc.
- Other organizations with search responsibilities

## Prerequisites:

There are no prerequisites for this course. It is highly recommended participants complete:

- IS-100 - Introduction to the Incident Command System or equivalent
- IS-200 - ICS for Single Resources and Initial Action Incidents or equivalent

## Continuing Education Credits:

IACET - 2.4 CEUs

ACE - 1 Hour College Credit (Lower Division)

For more information, contact:

### TEXAS A&M ENGINEERING EXTENSION SERVICE

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Loveland Fire Rescue Authority is hosting two Wide Area Search classes at the end of this month, and we have a few vacancies.

- April 23<sup>rd</sup>-25<sup>th</sup> (3 seats remaining)
- April 26<sup>th</sup>-28<sup>th</sup> (6 seats remaining)

Please contact Tim Smith for registration information.

Thanks,

**Tim B. Smith**

***Battalion Chief***

Loveland Fire Rescue Authority



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