

## November 15, 2020 WC-ARES Net Training: Those Left Behind When We Are Deployed

Presented by Nicholas Iglehart, KG5NZX

Tonight's Sunday Night Training is going to be about those left behind when we are deployed.

We often think about our go-kits, our first aid, our food, power, batteries, and all the things we need if we are deployed. We also need to think about preparations and a plan for the people we leave at home.

The family that we leave at home also needs to have first aid supplies, more than one form of communication, batteries and backup power, food and water, and depending on the type of activation, for example, weather related, escape plan.

It is important for the people who we leave behind to have first aid supplies. Just like how there is a possibility of us getting injured while we're deployed, they could also get injured in an emergency situation.

Having more than one form of communication is essential both for us who are deploying, but also for our family at home. We could be deployed somewhere responding to one emergency, but if the cell towers are knocked out by another emergency, having a radio or other form of backup communication will be extremely useful.

Relating to that, batteries and backup power are one of the most essential things that we and the people we leave behind at home need. You could possibly consider having a second generator that remains at home. If an emergency happens and it knocks out the power, batteries will help our families maintain a method of communication.

The most essential thing that we need to plan for when leaving our families at home is food and water. If the emergency that required us to deploy is preventing easy movement around, it may be difficult or even impossible to get food and water.

In certain situations, such as a weather-related emergency, an evacuation may be required. A pre-planned evacuation route will help to eliminate some of the confusion of an unexpected evacuation due to danger. An example of this would be an evacuation caused by a hurricane, which Louisiana has had to face several times this year.

This is the end of tonight's training, we just need to always be aware that when we plan for our deployment, we need to make sure that we don't leave those left behind at risk.

Nicholas Iglehart, KG5NZX back to net control.