

8/31/17, Tonight's Educational Moment is "A review of how to use your radio."

1. During an emergency radio time may be in short supply. Many people will be wanting to speak. So before you begin the whole process, plan what you want to say. Then press the PTT button, take a breath, and speak. If you are speaking to a Net Control, what you say is: "Net Control, this is so-and-so". Then you wait to be recognized by Net Control before you start saying what you want to say.

2. If you are going to be reporting any statistics, or several pieces of information, you should write them down first. You may be asked to repeat them later. Don't say more than is necessary. Keep your communication brief. Say "over" when you have finished. If the person you are talking to wants more information they will ask for it.

Even during these Thursday night Nets our communications should be short and no longer than is necessary.

3. For privacy reasons, don't use last names. Except for the Channel 19R repeater the other channels we use are public, and anyone can be listening. You don't even have to use your last name initial unless you are one of several people with the same first name, such as Bill, Dave, John, and Karen. Even those with common names can probably just use their zone number as an identifier. When talking within your Zone you wouldn't even have to do that.

Also for privacy reasons don't give out any personal information, yours or anyone else's. For example don't say "So-and-so isn't checking into the Net tonight because she's on vacation."

The more you take part in these Thursday Nets, the more you will be able to recognize people's voices. This may help during an emergency when even though we've practiced, people are liable to forget some of their training.