

Portland Bureau of Emergency Management NET Timeline (As of December 2023)

PBEM/NET 1994 — July 21, 2004: Portland Office of Emergency Management (POEM)(PBEM) founded

The NET Program was started in the Bureau of Fire, Rescue and Emergency Services, which housed the City's emergency management functions until Mayor Katz created PBEM.

The training cadre included firefighters, fire officers and myself [Rachel Jacky]. All of us completed FEMA's CERT Train-the-Trainer course. In fact, four of us from the NET trainer cadre then went to FEMA's Emergency Management Institute (EMI) a number of times to teach the Train-the-Trainer Course there. We also conducted the T-T-T Course several times for fire departments around the state (under contract with the State Office of Emergency Management). Also in Alaska and twice for tribal nations in South Dakota. Portland Fire had developed serious "CERT expertise" through creation and development of the NET Program. (R. Jacky)

[Rachel Jacky] I was with NET Program from inception in 1993 through 2005. The work started long before we conducted the first training in 1994. (R. Jacky)

See WIKI NET: https://volunteerpdx.net/index.php/Main_Page

Administrators:

1993 — 2005: Rachel Jacky Director, Portland NET founder, FEMA CERT program

(Years?) Lawrence Beamer NET Coordinator:

(Year?) — 2012: William Warren: handled NET after he'd been Crime Prevention Coordinator at the Office of Neighborhood Associations. (R. Jacky)

2012 —: Jeremy Van Keuren, Community Resilience Manager

10/22/2015 — 01/17/2024 Ernest Jones, BEECN & NET Program Development

01/08/2018 — Glenn Devitt PBEM NET Administrator

2018—May, 2022: DaVon Wilson-Angel, Resilience Training Coordinator.

Programs & Projects:

Neighborhood Teams: (As of 2019) 80 neighborhood teams

1994: NET pilot neighborhoods: Parkrose, Sylvan Highlands, Concordia, Hayden Island.

While I [R. Jacky] was managing the program, we didn't conduct the training by neighborhood. That was only during the pilot phase when we selected the four neighborhoods to test a few assumptions about the overall model. After that, we just conducted the training for everyone interested and, at the end of training, gave each graduate a contact list for everyone in their neighborhood association area who had also completed the training. We then provided technical assistance to each neighborhood group when they had critical mass and wanted to form a team.

December 2021/ACTIVE Neighborhood Emergency Teams

Ref: <https://www.portlandoregon.gov/pbem/article/456221>

November 29, 2012: Basic Earthquake Emergency Communication Node (BEECN)

The BEECN system was conceived by then Mayor Sam Adams.

The BEECN cache boxes were conceived by Dave Blitzer, former Operations Manager at PBEM. The design was refined and the boxes built by Madden Fabrication (the same people that built the Portland Loo and the “permanent” BEECN boxes which are now in five parks), likely in November or December of 2012.

The whole BEECN program was put together in three months by Dave Blitzer and Jeremy Van Keuren (PBEM originally said they could do it in 18 months but Mayor Adams told them to do it before his term ended, in three months). (E. Jones)

2018: The 50th BEECN site was established on the [Harbor Way Median](#).
as of 2023: 50 BEECN Sites:

As of May 26, 2022: NET UHF radio resources (B. Schafer)

<https://portlandprepares.org/net-resources/radio/net-aro/ham-uhf-frequencies-2/>

NET Exercises:

April 14, 1996: The first "CERT Rodeo" became a model for CERT Rodeos and similar cross-program "competitions" around the country. The first rodeo here was initiated by Portland NET and involved NET and CERT programs in Clackamas Fire District #1, Hillsboro Fire, Hoodland Fire, Lake Oswego Fire, Vancouver (WA) Fire, and Woodburn Fire. Each program was represented on the exercise planning team. It was held at Portland Fire Training, but trainers and evaluators were from all seven programs. We mixed participants from all the programs to form the exercise teams. We thought exercise players "teaming" up with players from other programs would be a good learning experience (R. Jacky)

May 2, 2015:NET first Scenario Village exercise ("Operation Sasquatch")

2020—2022 Covid Hiatus on public gatherings

March 3, 2020: The first Zoom NET Meeting. Originally called "NET COVID briefing."

April 3, 2020: The weekly Wednesday Zoom meetings began

Recordings available here:

<https://portlandnet.tumblr.com/post/640703692174180352/complete-list-of-recorded-bi-weekly-ish>

CityWide NET Exercises and Deployments: as of Dec. 2023: (Kathy Reese, Argay-Parkrose Team Lead):

<https://collinsview.org/NET/NET-CityWide-exercises-as-of-2023.pdf>

History Timeline as of December, 2023: (collated by M. Read, Collins View NET, with Technical expertise by John Miller)