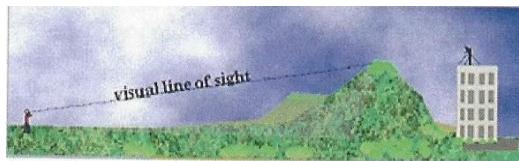


FRS/GMRS RADIO BASICS

For Block Captains

FRS/GMRS radios have 22 possible UHF channels, although we only use numbers 3-11 in our Emergency Management program.

Clear radio reception is dependent on a "**clear line of sight**" between two or more radios. Hills, valleys, and buildings can keep your radio from reaching your intended person(s).



- **DO** go outside to clear area, if possible.
- **DO** go to high ground if possible.
- **DO** go to a window if you can't go outside.
- **DO** hold radio with the **antenna straight up**; it greatly improves how well you're heard.
- **Only** one person should speak at a time. Otherwise, your radio will pick up multiple broadcasts causing garbled communication.
- **DO** gather your info & coordinate your thoughts before you speak.
- **DO** depress the *push-to-talk (PTT)* button & begin with your name and location followed by your message. Button turns off speaker and you cannot hear other party until you release it.
- **DO** say "**OVER**" so others know you're done, then release the button.
- **DO** wait for a reply, Comm Center often busy with other calls.

- **DO** store batteries outside the radio if they are AA or AAA type and keep a spare set of Li-Ion type.
- **DO** leave radio in charger if it has a non-replaceable type battery.

- **DO NOT** use privacy codes.
- **DO NOT** try to communicate through a hill or up out of a valley.
- **DO NOT** transmit personally identifying data, transmissions are not private.

Channel Assignments Within Port Ludlow

- **SOUTH BAY Areas to Sierra Communications Center**

PRIMARY - Channel 6 to and from Block Captains

SECONDARY – Channels 3-5 for communications between Captains
if they have prearranged assignments.

- **NORTH BAY Areas to November Communications Center**

PRIMARY – Channel 7 to and from Block Captains

SECONDARY – Channels 8-11 for Communications between Captains
if they have prearranged assignments.