

# NERT Position Description: Emergency Responder – Team Member, Utility Control & Fire Suppression

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## **Field Teams**

All volunteers participating in NERT response activities share these responsibilities:

- Carry out the tasks assigned safely. Be aware of the safety of those you supervise and help.
- Understand the tasks you are asked to perform. Be aware of your abilities and available resources.
- Acquire the tools and materials needed.
- Organize and brief team members.
- Use and follow scene size-up before taking action.
- Always record actions taken and report to the team or section leader after completing your tasks.

## **Team Members**

**Team members** report to the Team Leader, adhere to NERT principles and stay within the scope of their training in order to effectively respond to a situation. Team members work under the direction of the Team Leader as a cohesive team. They help plan and carry out all team functions. Every team member is responsible for the actions of their team.

## **Team Assignments**

When activated for an emergency response, the team assignments will follow the guidelines below. Every field team will have a Team Leader and a Safety Officer. Depending on the assignment, you will need additional field team members.

### **Utility Control & Fire Suppression - Minimum Team of Two (2)**

A team may be sent to help in fire- and utility-related emergencies before professional responders arrive. The team may need to locate shut-offs. If the team is unable to control the affected utility, that information should be relayed to the SFFD Battalion Station ASAP. Utility Control is an important component of Fire safety and prevention.

The size-up is a critical process when responding to fire and utility problems to ensure rescuer safety and to make decisions and respond appropriately in the areas of greatest need.