

Standards and Principles
of the
55th Light Foot
Kootenai County, Idaho



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MISSION STATEMENT

Mission Statement

The 55th Light Foot unites individuals in Kootenai County to train in four core pillars—Communication, Medical Preparedness, Sustainment, and Field Operations—fostering personal resilience, shared learning, and community service in an ever changing and unpredictable world. Guided by a commitment to protect unalienable rights, constitutional principles, and ethical readiness, we prepare to support ourselves, our families, and our community during crises without endorsing politics, religion, or violence.

Overview

The 55th Light Foot is a voluntary, community-based organization focused on practical preparedness and service in Kootenai County. Open to all experience levels, it emphasizes collaborative training across the four pillars:

- Communication: Reliable information sharing, coordination, and connectivity.
- Medical Preparedness: Health, safety, and emergency care skills.
- Sustainment: Resourcefulness and long-term resilience.
- Field Operations: Safe, effective community support, including defensive and proactive actions.

Membership involves building skills, strengthening ties, and upholding duties of citizenship under the U.S. and Idaho state constitutions while also rejecting criminal violence, terrorism, or threats to our community or our constitutional republic. This shared mindset turns individual readiness into collective strength.

The group's non-partisan stance and focus on responsible planning echo historical militia ideals, adapted for modern community needs—much like how early American militias balanced self-reliance with civic duty.

Our unit patch

The unit patch identifies members as part of the 55th Light Foot in Kootenai County, Idaho. It features a multicam background that matches our standard field uniform. At the center is a classic American patriot Minuteman figure, symbolizing the more than 250-year tradition of citizen militias in the United States — ordinary people ready to defend their communities, rights, and constitutional principles when needed.

The design is simple, recognizable, and purposeful. It connects our modern community preparedness efforts to the historical ideals of self-reliance, civic duty, and lawful defense of liberty. The patch is worn prominently on the upper left shoulder during training, field operations, and Battalion activities to promote unit cohesion and clear identification.

This understated yet meaningful emblem reinforces our focus on ethical readiness, shared learning, and community support without implying any official military or law enforcement authority.



WHY “LIGHT FOOT?”

The term “militia” comes from the Latin word *miles*, meaning “soldier.” It does **not** refer to a regular, paid soldier or a standing army under national or state command. Instead, it describes the able-bodied citizens of a community who are prepared to defend that community when needed.

Federal law (10 U.S.C. § 246) clearly defines the militia of the United States as having two classes:

- The **organized militia** (the National Guard and Naval Militia), and
- The **unorganized militia**, which includes all other qualifying U.S. citizens who are not part of the organized forces.

The 55th Light Foot is a voluntary, community-based group that operates squarely within the **unorganized militia** as defined by federal and Idaho law. We are not a government unit, we are not under military command unless lawfully called into service, and we do not act as a private military organization. We are neighbors training together for preparedness and community support, exactly as the unorganized militia has existed throughout American history.

Idaho’s Constitution (Article XIV) reinforces this tradition. It states that able-bodied residents may be called to perform military duty as required by law and encourages the legislature to support volunteer organizations. Our group follows these statutes and remains a lawful, non-partisan community readiness organization.

The “Light Foot” part of our name also has deep roots. British infantry units were historically called “Regiments of Foot.” Light infantry—fast-moving and agile troops—were known as “Light Foot.” During the War for Independence, our Founding Fathers deliberately used terms like “Infantry” to distinguish themselves from the King’s regular army. We choose “Light Foot” for the same reason: to clearly separate our community-based, citizen-led group from any regular military force.

“Light” means swift, mobile, and adaptable. In uncertain times, speed and flexibility improve our ability to protect ourselves, our families, and our community.

That is why we are the **55th Light Foot**—a modern expression of the unorganized militia, focused on the four pillars of readiness (Communication, Medical Preparedness, Sustainment, and Field Operations) while remaining fully consistent with the U.S. and Idaho Constitutions and all applicable laws.

MEMBERSHIP

Membership in the 55th Light Foot is open to any U.S. citizen or legal resident of Idaho who is at least 16 years old and has ties to Kootenai County or North Idaho. We welcome people of all backgrounds, experience levels, ages, and abilities. There is no discrimination based on race, sex, national origin, or physical characteristics. Participation is completely voluntary.

As a community-based readiness group operating within the framework of the **unorganized militia** (as defined by federal law at 10 U.S.C. § 246 and Idaho Constitution Article XIV), we focus on practical preparedness and mutual support. We train together to build personal resilience and community strength in line with our four core pillars: Communication, Medical Preparedness, Sustainment, and Field Operations.

General Qualifications

Prospective members should provide basic contact information, including name, date of birth, address, phone/email, next of kin, and any relevant skills or prior experience (such as military service, medical training, communications, mechanics, or other useful abilities). This information is kept private and used only for internal group purposes. It will be destroyed in the event of a crisis.

Identity is verified using a valid Idaho driver's license or state ID card.

Concealed Carry License (CCW)

Idaho is a constitutional carry state, allowing eligible individuals to carry concealed firearms without a permit. However, for patched (full) membership and participation in firearms-related activities, prospective members are required to obtain a standard Idaho Concealed Carry Weapons License (CCW). This serves as a reliable background check confirming the individual is eligible to possess and carry firearms under state and federal law.

- During a probationary period of up to 4 months, new members may observe meetings and learn about the group but will not participate in range activities or firearms training without a valid CCW.
- If a prospective member is eligible for a CCW but does not yet have one, they have time during probation to obtain it.
- Enhanced CCW is encouraged (but not required) for its additional reciprocity benefits when traveling.

Convicted Felons

In general, individuals with felony convictions are not admitted to membership. This policy supports public trust, compliance with firearms restrictions, and the group's focus on responsible community service. While we recognize that some convictions may not reflect current character, the need for clear eligibility standards and legal compliance guides this approach.

Skills Assessment and Welcome

We value every skill that strengthens community resilience. All ages and ability levels are welcome. Needed contributions include (but are not limited to):

- Medical and first aid skills
- Communications and radio operation
- Logistics, supply management, and transportation
- Mechanics, food preparation, and sustainment
- Public relations and community outreach
- Basic marksmanship and safety

No one is expected to be an expert in everything. We build skills together through shared learning.

Induction Process

All prospective members will meet with senior leaders for a brief, informal interview. Questions may include:

- Why do you want to join?
- What skills, experience, or resources can you contribute?
- Are you willing to support the group's mission and the principles in our Standards and Principles document?
- Do you have (or plan to obtain) an Idaho CCW if participating in firearms activities?

Membership becomes official once the probationary period is successfully completed and the individual is "patched" (receives the unit patch).

This open, voluntary approach aligns with our mission of fostering personal resilience, shared learning, and ethical community support—without endorsing politics, religion, or violence, and while fully respecting U.S. and Idaho constitutional principles.

MEMBER EXPECTATIONS AND CODE OF CONDUCT

Member Expectations

Membership in the 55th Light Foot is voluntary. There is no single way to participate. Whether you are new to preparedness or already experienced, we encourage you to contribute using your skills, interests, and available time while learning alongside others who share a commitment to readiness, responsibility, and community support.

Member Expectations

We ask all members to:

- Attend training events and meetings regularly when possible.
- Complete assigned tasks or work details to the best of their ability.
- Follow all safety rules, especially when handling firearms, vehicles, or other equipment.
- Avoid any actions that could endanger the public or bring discredit to the group. This includes inappropriate social media posts, public intoxication, fighting, bullying, or making statements that appear to speak for the entire group without authorization.

Our focus remains on the four core pillars—Communication, Medical Preparedness, Sustainment, and Field Operations—while upholding constitutional principles and ethical standards. We reject criminal violence, terrorism, or any threats to our community or the constitutional republic.

Personal Equipment

Each member is responsible for obtaining and maintaining their own gear as outlined in the Equipment section and Appendix. This includes items needed for personal safety, hygiene, and sustainment. We recommend keeping a “go bag” or basic kit ready so you can respond within 30 minutes if needed.

Bring enough food and water for yourself during meetings, training sessions, and musters.

Firearms and Ammunition

Each member provides and maintains their own firearms and ammunition. We expect members to:

- Practice safe handling and remain proficient with their weapons.
- Keep enough ammunition on hand for training and potential emergencies.
- Use firearms only for lawful purposes: self-defense, hunting, sport shooting, or supervised training.

All members must follow federal, state, and local firearms laws, including those in the Idaho Constitution (Article I, Section 11), which protects the right to keep and bear arms while allowing reasonable regulations on concealed carry and prohibiting possession by convicted felons.

Training and Participation

Members are encouraged to build practical skills across the four pillars through group training. Participation helps turn individual readiness into collective strength. Alpha Team members are expected to meet higher standards in physical fitness and firearms proficiency to support field operations when needed. All members should demonstrate basic safe firearms handling before participating in range activities.

Assembly and Muster

We hold regular monthly meetings for the full Battalion, plus additional team (Alpha/Bravo/Charlie) training as needed. Members will be notified in advance of dates, times, and locations.

While we value your time with family, faith, and work, we ask members to set aside reasonable time each month for training and musters. Our goal is to intrude as little as possible on personal lives while still building a capable, ready group.

Violations of Expectations or Code of Conduct

If a member's actions raise concerns about safety, ethics, or alignment with our standards, leadership will address the issue privately and fairly. Continued membership will be reviewed based on the situation. Our priority is maintaining a safe, respectful, and trustworthy group that serves the community responsibly.

This Code of Conduct supports our mission of fostering personal resilience, shared learning, and ethical community support in an unpredictable world—always grounded in constitutional principles and without endorsing politics, religion, or violence.

LEADERSHIP STRUCTURE

The 55th Light Foot is a voluntary, community-based readiness organization. A small team of elected and appointed leaders coordinates training, planning, and day-to-day activities to support our mission and the four core pillars: Communication, Medical Preparedness, Sustainment, and Field Operations.

Battalion Leadership Roles

Here are brief descriptions of the main leadership positions:

- **Commanding Officer (CO):** Oversees the entire Battalion. The CO provides overall direction, makes final decisions on operations and training, and ensures all activities align with the group's mission and standards. This position is elected annually by patched members.
- **Medical Officer (MO):** Leads medical preparedness efforts across the Battalion. The MO develops training in emergency care, organizes the Battalion medical loadout, and ensures team medics are properly equipped and skilled.
- **Communications Officer / Team Radio Officer (TRO):** Manages communication systems and protocols. This role establishes reliable ways for the group to share information, maintains radios and alert systems, and supports coordination during training and potential emergencies.
- **Training Officer (TO):** Plans and schedules all training activities. The TO creates the annual training calendar, designs programs focused on the four pillars and works to build practical skills for all members.
- **Range Safety Officer (RSO):** Ensures safety during all firearms training and range activities. The RSO enforces strict safety protocols, verifies that members meet basic firearms handling standards, and oversees safe marksmanship practice.
- **Intelligence Officer (IO):** Gathers and shares relevant information that supports preparedness and situational awareness. This role focuses on open-source intelligence useful for community resilience, weather, local risks, and emergency planning.
- **Squad Leaders:** One leader for each team (Alpha, Bravo, and Charlie). Squad Leaders coordinate day-to-day activities within their team, mentor members, and ensure team training aligns with Battalion goals. The CO appoints Squad Leaders after consulting with other officers.
- **Armorer:** Maintains and supports the group's firearms knowledge. The Armorer provides guidance on weapon maintenance, helps members with basic repairs and cleaning, and ensures safe storage and handling practices.
- **Overwatch Officer:** Coordinates longer-range observation and support capabilities. This role helps with planning overwatch during field operations and supports team members who specialize in precision or surveillance skills.

The Battalion consists of the Alpha, Bravo, and Charlie Teams, all working together under the guidance of the Commanding Officer. The CO appoints Squad Leaders after consulting with the other officers.

Election and Appointment Process

Patched members elect the Commanding Officer once each year at a monthly Battalion meeting held during the last quarter of the year. The CO then appoints the other officers as needed, in consultation with existing leadership. All leaders serve on a volunteer basis and remain focused on practical preparedness, shared learning, and ethical community support.

Leadership Responsibilities

The Battalion Leadership team meets monthly to:

- Plan and schedule training across the four pillars
- Coordinate activities between the Alpha, Bravo, and Charlie Teams
- Develop and maintain a Rapid Alert System for local communication
- Support recruitment and public relations efforts
- Provide clear guidance and instructions to keep the group organized and ready

For current information, visit our website at <https://www.55thlightfoot.com> or email info@55thlightfoot.com.

Patched Member Oath

“I, [state your name], do solemnly swear that I will support and defend the Constitution of the State of Idaho and the Constitution of the United States against all enemies, foreign and domestic; that I will bear true faith and allegiance to the same; and that I will faithfully fulfill my responsibilities as a member of the 55th Light Foot. So help me God.”

SQUAD STRUCTURE

The 55th Light Foot Battalion is organized into three teams—Alpha, Bravo, and Charlie—to allow members with different skills, fitness levels, and availability to contribute effectively. This structure supports our mission by building practical readiness across the four core pillars: Communication, Medical Preparedness, Sustainment, and Field Operations. All teams work together as one Battalion under the guidance of the Commanding Officer.

Alpha Team

Alpha Team consists of members who are physically capable of carrying a full kit and performing demanding field operations. These members maintain advanced firearms handling skills and the fitness needed to provide safe, thoughtful support during community response situations. Alpha Team members may operate day or night and are expected to have appropriate gear, including IR-compliant items when necessary.

Members are selected for Alpha by the Alpha Squad Leader and current Alpha members from patched members who express interest and demonstrate the required fitness and skills. Alpha members may take on specialty roles such as Marksman, Land Navigation, Medic, or Team Radio Operator.

Bravo Team

Bravo Team provides important support to the Battalion in communications, medical readiness, sustainment, and field operations. Members have solid skills but may have less demanding physical requirements than Alpha. Bravo Team often includes members with strong long-range firearms capabilities and can provide overwatch and observation support.

Charlie Team

Charlie Team supports the Battalion through transportation, administration, supply management, meal preparation, sanitation, and other logistical tasks. Members may have basic firearms familiarity but are not required to maintain the same level of field operations capability as Alpha or Bravo. Charlie Team plays a vital role in keeping the group sustained and organized, especially during longer activities or emergencies.

Specialty Roles

Each team (Alpha, Bravo, and Charlie) benefits from members who focus on specific areas. Common specialty roles include:

- **Communications** Team Radio Operators (TROs) help maintain reliable contact within the team and with Battalion leadership. They support the Communications Officer by following established protocols and keeping information flowing during training and potential emergencies.
- **Medical** Each team should have at least one member trained as a Field Medic. Team medics carry the same basic medical loadout as the Battalion Medical Officer recommends (see Appendix). The Medical Officer oversees overall medical preparedness and training.

- **Supply / Logistics** These members help procure, organize, and deliver equipment and provisions. They may also assist with transportation or act as messengers between leadership and teams.

All members are encouraged to develop skills that match their abilities and interests. No one is expected to excel in every area. By working together across the three teams, we turn individual strengths into collective resilience and community support—always in line with constitutional principles and our commitment to ethical, non-violent preparedness.

UNIFORM

The standard field uniform for the 55th Light Foot Battalion is multicam. This pattern is widely available, versatile, and works well across the varied terrain of Kootenai County and North Idaho, including urban areas, grasslands, farmland, conifer forests, and mountains.

Wearing the uniform helps build unit cohesion and presents a professional, organized appearance to the public. The 55th Light Foot Battalion patch must be worn prominently on the upper left shoulder during all Battalion meetings, training events, and field operations. This clearly identifies members as part of our community readiness group. A state of Idaho patch may be added below the Battalion patch on the left arm. Alpha, Bravo, or Charlie Team patches may be placed on the upper right shoulder.

When to Wear the Uniform

- **Field training, operations and Battalion Meetings:** The multicam uniform is required.
- **Staff meetings and squad range sessions:** Civilian clothing is acceptable.
- **Prospective members:** Any suitable camouflage or hunting clothing is fine during the probationary period.

Patched members are encouraged to acquire at least one set of the standard multicam uniform as soon as practical to support group unity and professionalism.

Professional Community Uniform

For public events, county meetings, gun shows, or official engagements with local elected officials or the Kootenai County Sheriff, we use a more approachable “professional community” uniform:

- Dark green short-sleeved polo shirt with the embroidered 55th Light Foot Battalion patch on the upper left chest.
- Paired with 5.11-style slacks or neat jeans

TRAINING

Training is the foundation of our preparedness efforts. It builds the knowledge, skills, mindset, and habits needed to fulfill our mission of fostering personal resilience, shared learning, and community support across the four core pillars: Communication, Medical Preparedness, Sustainment, and Field Operations.

Our training focuses on practical, realistic skills that help individuals and families handle emergencies, disasters, and uncertain times. This includes learning to live without reliable power or supply chains, providing basic emergency care, maintaining clear communications, and offering responsible community assistance when appropriate. We emphasize safe practices and collaboration with local authorities, such as the Kootenai County Sheriff, when situations arise.

Training Approach

Training includes both individual skills and team coordination. We use:

- **Drills** — Repeated practice of basic tasks to build speed, consistency, and confidence.
- **Exercises** — Realistic scenarios that simulate possible emergencies or disruptions.
- **After Action Reviews (AARs)** — Honest group discussions immediately after activities to identify what went well and what can improve. We learn best by openly reviewing both successes and mistakes.

All training is tailored to our voluntary, community-based nature. It is progressive, challenging, and achievable for members at different experience levels. Repetition of fundamentals is key to building lasting capability.

Basic Requirements for All Members

Every member is expected to:

- Demonstrate safe firearms handling (the four universal safety rules, loading/clearing, malfunction drills, and basic disassembly/cleaning).
- Meet minimum marksmanship standards set by the Training Officer and Range Safety Officer.
- Understand the group's leadership structure, squad organization, and four-pillar mission.
- Pursue physical fitness to the best of their ability, aligned with their team's expectations.
- Learn basic first aid skills, including evaluating a casualty (ABC's), controlling bleeding, applying tourniquets, treating shock, and performing CPR.
- Practice basic land navigation, hand and arm signals, and simple radio procedures.
- Maintain basic emergency preparedness at home (minimum three-month supply of water, food, and medical items, with knowledge of how to use them).

Alpha Team members are expected to meet higher standards in physical fitness, firearms proficiency, and field operations to support more demanding community response roles.

Additional Skills and Progression

Members are encouraged to advance in intermediate and advanced areas that match their interests and team role. These may include:

- Emergency medical care beyond basic first aid
- Reliable off-grid communications
- Long-term sustainment and self-reliance (food storage, water purification, gardening, etc.)
- Safe field movement, camouflage, and basic survival in North Idaho's terrain and wildlife
- Supporting community needs such as neighborhood watch, traffic control, or securing critical infrastructure during disasters so law enforcement can focus on priority tasks

The Training Officer maintains an annual training calendar and syllabus focused on the four pillars. All members are asked to commit time each month to training and musters while balancing responsibilities to family, faith, and work.

Our training philosophy is simple: prepare responsibly as individuals and neighbors so we can support ourselves, our families, and our community in difficult times—always grounded in constitutional principles, safety, and ethical conduct without endorsing politics, religion, or violence.

EQUIPMENT

Each member is responsible for obtaining and maintaining their own personal equipment. The goal is to support safe, effective participation in training and community readiness activities across the four core pillars: Communication, Medical Preparedness, Sustainment, and Field Operations. Gear recommendations are provided as practical guidance only — equip yourself as your budget and needs allow. This is not a mandatory checklist.

We recommend organizing gear into simple levels for everyday preparedness and training:

- **Level 1 (Low-Visibility / Everyday Carry):** Items you keep on your person or in your vehicle for normal daily use. This is often the most important kit because most situations begin without warning. Examples: Concealed carry pistol and spare magazine(s), micro-Individual First Aid Kit (IFAK) with tourniquet, knife or multi-tool, flashlight, and cell phone.
- **Level 2 (Immediate Response):** Adds your primary firearm with sling, chest rig with magazines or battle belt with holster and magazines, IFAK, Radio, and basic sustainment items. This supports short-duration field activities.
- **Level 3 (Sustainment Pack):** Includes a larger pack (often called a 72-hour or “bug-out” bag) with additional food, water, shelter, clothing, and supplies for longer periods. A 25–37 liter pack in the 30-pound range (before adding water and ammunition) is a common starting point for our area of operations in Kootenai County.

An enhanced low-visibility “get home” bag kept in your vehicle is highly recommended for urban or suburban scenarios.

Firearms

- **Rifle:** A reliable semi-automatic rifle in a common caliber (such as 5.56/.223, 7.62x39, or .308) with a suitable sling. The most important rule is simply to have a functional firearm suited to your needs.
- **Sidearm:** A dependable handgun in a major caliber (9mm, .40 S&W, .45 ACP, or .38/.357 for revolvers) with a suitable outside the waistband holster. Choose a model with a strong reputation for reliability (examples include Glock, Sig Sauer, Smith & Wesson, or similar).
- **Ammunition:** Carry as much as you can comfortably manage. A suggested starting loadout is 6–7 magazines for the rifle (including one in the weapon) and 3–5 for the handgun. Maintain additional stock at home for training and emergencies.
- **Maintenance:** Keep a basic cleaning kit, lubricant, and simple tools with your range bag or pack.

Load-Bearing Gear

Use a chest rig, plate carrier, or battle belt to carry essential items while keeping your hands free. Common attachments include magazine pouches, water, IFAK, holster and sidearm.

Communications and Navigation

- Radio (AnyTone AT-D878UVII Plus Dual Band DMR/Analog 7W VHF, 6W UHF Handheld Radio is the Battalion standard for GMRS/Ham compatibility)

- Compass and maps of the local area
- Signal mirror, chemical lights, extra batteries, and a power bank or solar charger
- Write-in-the-rain notebook and pen

Medical

Every member should carry at least a basic Individual First Aid Kit (IFAK) focused on life-threatening bleeding control. Team medics and the Battalion Medical Officer follow the recommended medical loadout in the Appendix.

Additional Considerations

- **Boots and Clothing:** Invest in sturdy, comfortable boots — your feet are critical for mobility.
- **Sustainment Items:** Water containers (including a way to purify water), high-calorie non-perishable food, basic shelter materials (tarp, poncho, or bivy), fire-starting supplies, and hygiene items.
- **Specialty Gear:** Depending on your role, you may add items such as binoculars, night vision (quality 3rd generation recommended), body armor, or backup power solutions. Specialists (medics, communications, overwatch) may use a smaller assault pack for role-specific tools.

Review the Appendix for more detailed suggestions on sustainment packs, vehicle mobility kits, communications SOP, and the Battalion medical loadout.

Remember: In our relatively urban and suburban area of operations, a well-prepared low-visibility kit combined with strong personal skills often provides the greatest real-world benefit. Focus on quality, reliability, and realistic weight you can actually carry and use.

All equipment choices and firearm use must comply with federal, state, and local laws, including Idaho's constitutional protections for the right to keep and bear arms.

This practical approach supports our mission of building personal resilience and community strength while remaining safe, lawful, and focused on ethical preparedness.

APPENDIX

The Appendix provides practical recommendations and standard operating guidance to support individual and group preparedness. These are suggestions only — adapt them to your personal needs, budget, location, and the four core pillars: Communication, Medical Preparedness, Sustainment, and Field Operations. All equipment and activities must comply with federal, state, and local laws.

These appendix materials are living references. Review and update your gear based on training experiences, seasonal needs, and personal circumstances. The focus remains on building realistic, lawful preparedness that supports you, your family, and the broader community.

Prepared Citizen Gear Acquisition Hierarchy

Visit everydaymarksman.co/gear for the complete explanation



Source: Everyday Marksman by Matt Robertson (<https://www.everydaymarksman.com>)

SUSTAINMENT PACK

A sustainment pack (often called a 72-hour or “get home / bug-out” bag) helps you stay self-reliant during short-to-medium disruptions. Keep it accessible, packed, and ready. For our Kootenai County area of operations, a pack in the 25–37 liter range (roughly 30 pounds before adding water and ammunition) is a realistic starting point.

Key Packing Principles

- Match the pack to the mission, season, weather, and your own capabilities and limitations.
- Keep total weight manageable so you can move quickly and comfortably.
- Consider how the pack layers with your other gear (belt, chest rig, jacket).
- Minimize noise, bright colors, and light signature for safety and practicality.
- Focus on quality items that are reliable and multi-purpose.

Recommended Categories and Items

- **Hydration and Nutrition:** Water bottles or hydration bladder (minimum 3 liters), water purification method (tablets or filter), high-calorie compact food (bars, pemmican, freeze-dried), eating utensils, metal cup, and a way to heat food/water (such as a small stove or trioxane).
- **Shelter and Protection:** Tarp or poncho (doubles as rain gear), ground cloth, sleeping bag or bivy, paracord, and basic insulation layers.
- **Light, Heat, and Fire:** Flashlight or headlamp (with low-light options), chemical lights, lighters/matches in a waterproof container, fire starter, and hand warmers.
- **Hygiene and Sanitation:** Toilet paper, hand sanitizer, soap, wet wipes, small towel, toothbrush/paste, and a trowel or entrenching tool for waste.
- **Clothing and Personal Items:** Extra socks, base layers, insulation, shell layer suited to the weather, gloves, hat, bandana, and any personal medications. Avoid cotton for base layers.
- **Other Essentials:** Knife or multi-tool, duct tape, zip-lock bags for garbage, and a small “boo-boo” kit for minor injuries.

Choose gear that is lightweight, durable, and IR-compliant where practical. Test your pack by carrying it during training.

VEHICLE MOBILITY KIT

A well-equipped vehicle can make a significant difference during evacuations, supply runs, or extended disruptions. Keep these items in your vehicle as a foundation:

- An enhanced low-visibility “get home” bag kept in your vehicle.
- Tire repair: Fix-a-flat (2 cans), tire plug kit, spare tire, jack, lug wrench, and 12-volt compressor.
- Traction and recovery: Tire chains, come-along or winch, chain saw, axe, shovel, and bolt cutters.
- Fluids and maintenance: 5-gallon fuel can, spare fuel/oil filters, 5 quarts of oil, spare fan belts, headlights, fuses, and a basic tool set.
- Safety: Fire extinguisher, spotlight, and flashlight with spare batteries.
- Communications: GMRS/Ham radio and a police/fire/emergency scanner.

Maintain this kit and check it regularly. It supports sustainment and mobility while aligning with our focus on practical resilience.

COMUNICATIONS SOP

Effective communication strengthens coordination and safety during training and potential emergencies. We emphasize reliable, lawful methods that support the Communications pillar.

The Battalion standard radio is the AnyTone model for GMRS and Ham compatibility. All members should become familiar with basic radio operation, including proper procedures, battery management, and simple protocols for sharing information clearly and concisely.

Team Radio Operators help maintain contact within their team and with Battalion leadership. The Communications Officer oversees overall systems, protocols, and the Rapid Alert System for the group. Focus on practical skills such as SitReps (situation reports) and keeping messages brief and accurate.

Additional useful items include signal mirrors, chemical lights, extra batteries, power storage/solar chargers, and backup methods like written notes or in-person messengers.

BATTALION MEDICAL LOADOUT

Micro Trauma Kit (Individual First Aid Kit – IFAK) Every member should carry a small, accessible Micro Trauma Kit focused on immediate life-threatening injuries, especially bleeding control. Keep it on your battle belt at the 6 o'clock position (or another consistent, reachable location) so it can be accessed with either hand.

Minimum Contents (keep it compact to avoid bulk):

- Gloves
- Hemostatic wound packing gauze
- 4-inch compression dressing
- Vented chest seals (2)

Add-on Items (highly recommended):

- Tourniquet (2–4 total — some on the kit, others on belt or chest rig)
- Additional compressed gauze
- Self-adhering wrap
- Trauma shears
- Flat tape or duct tape (stored on chest seal packaging)
- Nasopharyngeal airway (NPA) sized to you, plus lubricant
- Decompression needle (as appropriate for training level)

Team medics carry the same basic loadout, scaled for their role. The Medical Officer provides guidance on training and standardization. All members should train regularly on how to use these items under stress, including self-application when necessary.

Larger medical kits for sustained support are encouraged for those in medical specialty roles.

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