



SEARCH AND RESCUE

NEW MEMBER APPLICATION AND INTRODUCTION PACKET

Submit Completed Applications to
Blaine County Sheriff's Office
1650 Aviation Drive
Hailey, Idaho 83333

Revised 2020

BCSAR VOLUNTEER APPLICATION

NAME FIRST – MIDDLE - LAST		DATE OF BIRTH		
MAILING ADDRESS – BOX NO., CITY, STATE, ZIP		SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER		
PHYSICAL ADDRESS - STREET, CITY, STATE, ZIP				
CELL PHONE#	HOME PHONE#	WORK PHONE#		
E-MAIL ADDRESS		CELL PHONE CARRIER		
ARE YOU A MEMBER OF ANY OTHER PUBLIC SAFETY AGENCY IN BLAINE COUNTY?				
DRIVERS LICENSE #:		VEHICLE MAKE, MODEL, COLOR:		
STATE ISSUED:		LICENSE PLATE #		
EXPIRATION DATE:				
LIST ALL THE CITIES AND STATES YOU HAVE LIVED IN:				
HAVE YOU EVER RECEIVED A CITATION, BEEN CHARGED - OR - CONVICTED OF AN INFRACTION, MISDEMEANOR OR FELONY? This includes charges that were either Dismissed or received Withheld Judgments.			YES	NO
IF YOU ANSWERED YES, PROVIDE DETAILS OF ALL CHARGE(S), DISPOSITION(S), DISPOSITION DATE(S) & LOCATION(S):				
LIST ANY SERIOUS MEDICAL CONDITIONS, MEDICATIONS, OR ALLERGIES YOU HAVE:				

EMPLOYMENT

CURRENT EMPLOYER/COMPANY NAME	EMPLOYMENT LENGTH
ADDRESS	POSITION OR TITLE
DUTIES	SUPERVISOR'S NAME
	PHONE NO.

EMERGENCY CONTACT INFORMATION:

EMERGENCY CONTACT NAME:		
EMERGENCY CONTACT ADDRESS:		
RELATIONSHIP:		
EMERGENCY CONTACT'S EMPLOYER:		
CELL PHONE:	WORK PHONE:	HOME PHONE:

PRIOR TRAINING AND EXPERIENCE

List all current certifications and licenses that indicate your particular area of expertise or training relative to volunteer service.

CERTIFICATE	ISSUING AGENCY	DATE ISSUED

DESCRIBE ANY SPECIAL ABILITIES OR TRAINING YOU HAVE RECEIVED:

DESCRIBE ANY SPECIAL EQUIPMENT YOU HAVE AND YOUR LEVEL OF EXPERIENCE WITH EACH:

DO YOU HAVE THE NECESSARY EQUIPMENT IN VEHICLE TO BE ABLE TO RESPOND IN THE FIELD?

LIST ANY OTHER SKILLS, such as Business, Accounting, Electronics, Construction, CPR, Photography, Computer, Medical, etc.

PLEASE EXPLAIN WHY YOU WANT TO BECOME A BLAINE COUNTY SEARCH AND RESCUE VOLUNTEER?

LIST ANY ADDITIONAL INFORMATION YOU WANT US TO KNOW (Optional)

PERSONAL WAIVER

By signing this document, I am agreeing to a background investigation for security clearance purposes. I am acknowledging I have answered all of the questions honestly and accurately. I understand and acknowledge that any discovered falsification, omission, or misrepresentation may result in disqualification from Blaine County Search and Rescue. Approval is based upon various factors; final approval is the sole discretion of the Sheriff. I recognize that the Blaine County Sheriff's Office as the authorizing law enforcement agency has a legal, as well as moral, obligation to ensure that persons volunteering as Search and Rescue Members conform to the very highest standards.

To that end, I recognize that the Blaine County Sheriff's Office may conduct a background investigation into my fitness which may include contacting persons and/or organizations that may have personal, medical, employment and/or psychological history information relating to me.

Therefore, I release and hold harmless the Blaine County Sheriff's Office, its officers, agents, from any claim or damages pertaining to this background investigation. I hereby waive my right, now and in the future, to examine, review, or otherwise discover the contents of this investigation and all related documents thereto.

I also understand that during my association with the Blaine County Search and Rescue I may have access to restricted or confidential information. I agree not to disclose any information derived from any Sheriff's Office or BCSAR source to members of the public or media without the specific permission of the Sheriff.

APPLICANT'S SIGNATURE: _____ **Date:** _____
(Handwritten Signature Required)

AUTHORIZATION TO RELEASE INFORMATION

I authorize you to furnish the Blaine County Sheriff's Office any and all information that you have concerning me, my work record, reputation, medical, physical, criminal, and mental records or reports, including all information of a confidential or privileged nature. This information is to be used in determining my qualifications and fitness for Blaine County Search and Rescue. I hereby release you, your organization or your employer from liability or damages, which may result from furnishing this information. A photocopy of this document may act like the original.

APPLICANT'S SIGNATURE: _____ **Date:** _____
(Handwritten Signature Required)

SUBSCRIBED AND SWORN BEFORE ME ON THE _____ DAY OF _____, 20__

Notary Public for the State of Idaho
Resides in _____ Notary Expires _____
(Seal) **(NOTARIZATION REQUIRED)**

****PLEASE DETACH HERE AND SUBMIT PAGES 1-5 WITH AN OFFICIAL IDENTIFICATION COLOR PHOTO (DRIVERS LICENSE OR PASSPORT) AS YOUR APPLICATION****

APPROVED () DENIED () BY: _____ DATE: _____

Separate this section from the application and retain it for reference.
The application should be signed, notarized and submitted to BCSAR.



BLAINE COUNTY SEARCH AND RESCUE NEW MEMBER INTRODUCTION

Welcome to Blaine County Search and Rescue (BCSAR). You are joining an organization that is dedicated to helping people in need. We each join this organization for our own reasons; the National Association for Search and Rescue summarizes one of the best reasons with their motto:

“So Others May Live”

This introduction packet has been created to help familiarize you with Blaine County Search and Rescue and what is required to become an active member within the organization. While this packet is not comprehensive, it will provide enough information and training guidelines to assist you in becoming a valuable asset to the organization during BCSAR operations. The training members complete will also help determine where each member can best serve during operations.

MISSION STATEMENT

It is the mission of the Blaine County Search and Rescue to maintain a group of trained volunteers to be used as directed by the Sheriff of Blaine County. This group shall be trained to search for and rescue those lost or injured, or those who are victims of natural or man-made disasters in Blaine County.

BLAINE COUNTY CHARACTERISTICS

Blaine County encompasses over 2600 square miles. Elevations range from a low point of 4200 feet at Lake Walcott in Southern Blaine County to a high point of 12,009 feet above sea level on Hyndman Peak in the Pioneer Mountains in Northern Blaine County.

Over 80% of Blaine County is owned by some form of public government. The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) and the National Forest Service account for 75% of this land. This translates into a lot of areas available for the public to utilize. From tall mountain peaks and meadows to high plateau deserts and lava fields, Blaine County Search and Rescue conducts operations in all types of climates and geography.

Blaine County is adjoined by ten other counties; more than any other county in the state. These counties share similar geographic features with Blaine County and are also comprised of mostly public lands. Each of these counties may request mutual aid in a search or rescue operation.

OPERATIONS

Blaine County Search and Rescue operates under the authority of the Sheriff of Blaine County, Steve Harkins. The Sheriff is responsible for all search and rescue operations within the county per Idaho statute.

BCSAR performs multiple types of operations in the performance of its duties. The most common operation conducted is a search for a missing person. Other types of operations include:

- Medical assistance and extraction of people injured in the backcountry
- Body recovery of fatal accident victims
- Search for avalanche victims
- Assist in swift river rescues
- Assist in criminal investigations
- Assist Sheriff's Office during natural disasters

Anyone can call for assistance from Blaine County Search and Rescue, but it is the officers of the Sheriff's department that determine when and who gets activated within the group. Calls for help are taken by a dispatcher and given to the ranking officer on duty to determine if there is a need for BCSAR.

Once the determination that BCSAR is needed, senior members of the group are called in to begin planning the operation. This planning group typically consists of two or three members with experience in the type of operation at hand. They receive information from the ranking officer and reporting parties that will help determine the number of people and equipment required and the best plan for conducting the operation.

Once the planning stage is started, a call out page will go out to notify members of BCSAR that an operation is about to begin. The page, sent by the Blaine County Emergency Communications Center, will be a description of where members are requested to meet and may include what the operation involves or what type of equipment is required. **Not all operations require that all members be notified.** However, the typical rule of thumb is that having more people than needed responding to a call is better than not having enough people to do the job.

In addition to running searches itself, Blaine County Search and Rescue provides logistic and support services for other rescue groups such as the Galena Backcountry Ski Patrol, and auxiliary groups who operate under the authority of the Blaine County Sheriff's Office. BCSAR also works with other organizations including local Fire Departments, Sun Valley Company Ski Patrol, Heli-Ski Guides and the Rescue Dive Team.

MEETINGS

BCSAR regular meetings are held the second Thursday of every month at 6 p.m. The location of the meeting can vary so reminder email messages and texts are sent to confirm meeting plans and locations approximately one week prior.

MEMBERS

Blaine County Search and Rescue is a volunteer organization. All training and operation time is donated by the individual member for the good of the organization. It is this commitment to the group that makes BCSAR one of the best rescue organizations in the state.

Since 1998, Blaine County Search and Rescue has trained its members to the national certified standards of the National Association for Search and Rescue (NASAR). These standards list three levels of training from Search and Rescue Technician Level III (SAR Tech) to the current highest level of Search and Rescue Technician Level I. Members of BCSAR currently include people qualified at the SAR Tech I and II levels as well as members with local training only. Training is also available in association with the Ketchum Fire Department and Wood River Fire and Rescue.

One of the goals of Blaine County Search and Rescue is that all field personnel have passed the SAR Tech II level of training. This training is in addition to the new member program and is an important milestone for all members to achieve. The SAR Tech II program is a standardized training that allows anyone familiar with it to judge the minimum capabilities of other people who have been through the training.

Members of the Blaine County Search and Rescue have also received specialized certified training in other areas including:

- Avalanche Awareness
- Tracking
- Outdoor Emergency Care / CPR
- Search Management
- K9 Trailing, Area Search, Avalanche, & Cadaver

EQUIPMENT

Blaine County Search and Rescue maintains a large cache of common equipment for the group as well as some equipment that is mandatory for all active members to have. This common equipment includes:

- Global Positioning Satellite (GPS) Receivers
- Two-Way Radios and Batteries
- Quadrangle Maps of Blaine County
- Stokes Litter and Wheel and Backboard
- Personal Flotation Devices
- Oxygen Bottles and Masks
- Helmets
- Mobile Repeater

All members are required to maintain a personal 24-hour ready pack for field operations. The gear in this pack is purchased by each member but must contain certain standard items to be considered a field pack for BCSAR. All new members will be required to have a 24-hour pack and its contents by the end of their probationary period. A sample list of the 24-hour ready pack is provided for reference.

24-HOUR READY PACK

Backcountry 24 Hour Pack

- 1 – Pack, 1800 cubic inch (minimum)
- 4 – Ziplock Bags, various sizes
- 1 - Cap or Other Headgear
- 2 - Locking Carabiners
- 1 – Waterproof Clothing Bag
- 1 – Clothing, adequate for the climate
- 1 – Extra Clothing, adequate for the climate
- 1 – Orienting Compass
- 1 – Roll Flagging Tape
- 1 - Flashlight or Lantern
- 1 -Extra Flashlight, extra batteries, and bulbs
- 1 –Footwear adequate for the climate
- 1 – Gloves, durable even in summer
- 1 - Eye Protection, Goggles, Clear
- 1 - Insect Repellent
- 1 - Multi-Purpose Knife
- 1 - Lip Balm with Sun Screen
- 1 - 18-inch Measuring Devise
- 1 - Metal Cup or Pot
- 1 - Small Mirror
- 1 - 50 Foot Nylon Twine or Small Rope
- 1 - Pad and Pencil
- 1 - Prusik Cord (6 mm – 8 mm, 6ft length)
- 1 - Rain Gear
- 1 - SAR Personal Identification
- 1 - Personal Shelter,
8 X 10 plastic or coated nylon
- 1 - Scissors, multi-purpose
- 1 - Socks, extra pair
- 1 - Sun Screen
- 1 - Tissue Paper or Baby Wipes
- 1 - Tracking Stick, 42” long
- 2 - Water Containers, at least 1 liter
- 1 - Webbing, 1” tubular, length suitable for
harness
- 1 - Wire 5 – 10 ft, woven steel
- 8 - Wire Ties, plastic self-locking

Optional Personal Support Equipment -

- 2 - Antihistamine, 25 mg Benadryl
- 2 - Extra Leaf Bags
- 1 - Extra Water Container
- 1 - Foam Pad
- 2 - Food, nonperishable
- 1 - Gaiters
- 1 - Rain Cover for Pack
- 1 - Sterno or Stove

- 1 - Sunglasses, 97% UV protection
- 1 - Trail Snack
- 1 - Water Purification Tabs

Personal 1st Aid and Survival Kit

- 1 – Quart Size Ziplock Bag
- 4 – Acetaminophen/Aspirin
- 4 – Antacid
- 2 – Antiseptic Cleaning Pads
- 1 – Antiseptic Ointment
- 6 - Band-Aids, various sizes
- 1 – Long Burning Candle
- 2 – Cotton Swabs, non-sterile
- 5-10 feet of Duct Tape
- 1 – Leaf Bag
- 8 - Water Proof Matches
- 1 – Moleskin
- 1 - Razor Blade, single edge, safety type
- 1 – Roll of Gauze Bandage
- 2- Large Safety Pins
- 1 – Splinter Forceps, Tweezers
- 1 -Space Blanket
- 1 - Towelette
- 1 - Whistle

Urban Personal SAR Equipment

- 1 - Fanny pack, 600 – 1200 cubic inches
- 4 - Ziplock Bags, various sizes
- 1 - Bandana
- 1 - Cap or Head Gear
- 1 – Clothing, adequate for the climate
- 1 - Orienting Compass
- 1 - Roll Flagging Tape
- 1 - Flash Light, with extra batteries
- 1 – Footwear, adequate for the climate
- 1 – Multi-Purpose Knife
- 1 - Map
- 1 - Small Mirror
- 1 - Rain Gear
- 1 - SAR Identification
- 1 - Small Pad and Pencil
- 1 - Sunglasses, 97% UV protection
- 1 - Sun Screen Lotion
- 1 - Tissue Paper or Baby Wipes
- 1 - Tracking Stick, 42” long
- 1 - Watch
- 1 - Water Container, at least 1 liter