

The Northern Virginia Region has a population of over 2 million, two major airports, the Pentagon and other Federal and state agencies, numerous corporate headquarters, and endless highways and commuter routes.

Serving this Region are 10 hospitals, over 50 EMS agencies (government, volunteer, federal, non-profit, commercial, and industrial), over 4,700 EMS providers, almost 500 licensed EMS vehicles, 4 licensed medevac helicopter agencies (2 in Northern VA and 2 from Washington, DC), and one fixed wing agency.

Holding all of this together and providing needed coordination and oversight is the **Northern Virginia Emergency Medical Services Council**. Established in 1980, our mission is to improve emergency medical care in Northern Virginia. Our not-for-profit corporation is an integral part of Virginia's comprehensive EMS system.

It is our job to assist in the planning and coordination of our region's emergency medical services to ensure that the best emergency care possible is available. In addition, we support the emergency providers themselves, providing the opportunity for education, testing, and recognition. We also work with the local community, supporting educational outreach and training needs.

Northern Virginia EMS Council

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**Improving Emergency
Medical Care in Northern
Virginia**

For the latest news & information –
subscribe, on the web site, to the
Northern Virginia EMS Council e-mail
list.

What We Do

Planning & Coordination

- ◆ Develop annual Regional EMS Plan and publish annual *EMS Resource Directory*.
- ◆ Maintain regional web site to communicate information on important EMS issues.
- ◆ Identify and recommend solutions for regional EMS communication issues.
- ◆ Coordinate regional disaster planning and maintain regional MCI Plan and Mass Casualty Support Units (MCSU) listing.
- ◆ Work with hospital facilities to develop and maintain a regional trauma triage plan, a regional hospital diversion plan, and a regional bed-tracking system.
- ◆ Maintain a regional CLIA waiver, a medication restocking program, and an ambulance restocking plan.
- ◆ Maintain a link with the National Capital Region and State planning and coordination committees.

Education & Funding

- ◆ Ensure availability of appropriate training and continuing education programs.

- ◆ Provide oversight and scheduling for regional state certification test sites.
- ◆ Provide EMT Evaluator training.
- ◆ Support local agencies' recruitment and retention programs.
- ◆ Assist with planning of statewide EMS Symposium.
- ◆ Provide workshops to educate and assist EMS organizations in applying for grant monies; provide technical assistance to agencies applying for funds; and review local grants.
- ◆ Assist with planning of seminars, workshops, and special events.

Public Information & Education

- ◆ Act as local clearing house for technical, educational, and informational resources for agencies, providers, and the public.
- ◆ Conduct regional EMS Awards Program.
- ◆ Maintain a regional Community Training Center.
- ◆ Assist with planning of annual EMS Week events.
- ◆ Ensure integration of health services through partnering with other agencies and organizations both in and outside the Region.

Who We Are

The Northern Virginia Region includes the counties of Arlington, Fairfax, Loudoun, and Prince William; the cities of Alexandria, Fairfax, Falls Church, Manassas, and Manassas Park; and the Metro Washington Airports Authority (Reagan National and Washington Dulles International Airports). The region has seen a doubling of its population between the mid-1970s and 2003. This 1,338 square mile region extends from very urban to very rural areas.

The Northern VA EMS Council Board of Directors includes representatives from the region's EMS agencies, healthcare facilities, medevac agencies, training institutions, physicians, nurses, a fixed wing agency, and military installations. The board meets 6 times per year. Our staff includes an Executive Director, a Regional Coordinator, a part-time Administrative Assistant, and a part-time Training Center Coordinator.

Our region is considered part of the National Capitol Region and interacts on a daily basis with the EMS systems in Washington, DC and Maryland. All EMS agencies within the region are participants in the Washington Metropolitan Council of Governments (COG) Regional Disaster Plan and a representative of the Council serves on its EMS advisory body.