

Welcome to the Napa County Sheriff Search and Rescue Youth Explorer Program



About the program

The Napa County Sheriff's Office is starting a Youth Explorer program through their Search and Rescue Unit. The Search and Rescue team is an all volunteer unit consisting of individuals who give of their time and talents to provide search and rescue services to benefit the public. Napa County SAR provides both in-county and out-of-county emergency response 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. We recognize the potential of the youth of Napa County and are eager to tap into the spirit and energy of today's young people who have the right mix of skills, interest, and commitment for search and rescue activities.

In working with the Mt. Diablo Council of the Boy Scouts and their Learning for Life program, Napa SAR has formed Explorer Post specifically focused on Search and Rescue. Our mission is to provide a fun and supportive environment for wilderness oriented youth to learn, grow, and serve their community through the Sheriff's Department. Learning for Life is more than just scouting. It is a career-focused program which is open to all interested youth searching for activities to help them develop skills, knowledge and character to be successful as young adults. By providing hands-on training, mentorship, and leadership for youth, we can prepare them as they grow into responsible adults.

Is this program right for you?

Not everyone is cut out for search and rescue operations. In order to be a successful member of the search team, you need to have the right mix of interest, aptitude, physical abilities, and desire. Searching for missing persons is no game. Search and rescue is serious business requiring sincere commitment to learning, developing skills and knowledge, and responding to a person in need at anytime – day or night.

Basic requirements to join Napa County SAR Explorers are:

Pass interview and background and reference checks
Successfully complete basic training program and probation period
Regular attendance at meetings, trainings, and emergency responses
Parent/guardian permission to join organization and respond to search missions
Maintain good standing in community and in school studies

Building a Foundation

Napa SAR provides leadership to help youth organize, elect youth leadership, and maintain an operating framework for training and developing team members. The Adult Advising Committee provides the rules, guidelines and mentoring resources for the youth members. We maintain a strict training and certification policy for all members.

Youth members have the opportunity to learn and practice skills applicable to search and rescue, law enforcement, and non-profit business operations. They include:

- Wilderness Survival
- First Aid
- Tracking
- ATV operations
- Radio Communications
- Business Planning
- Fiscal management
- Fund-raising

Training and becoming Mission-Ready

As a youth member of Napa SAR, Explorers will be expected to complete rigorous training in the following areas.

Due to the nature of search activities, and safety requirements that must be enforced during training and emergency response, all youth members will be provided some level of training to prepare them for participation in search and rescue activities. Possible training curriculum includes:

- Search and Rescue Basic Training (Boot Camp)
- Land Navigation
- Radio Operation
- Project Lifesaver
- Track Aware
- Man tracker
- Witness Interviewing
- Search Management
- Patient Assessment and Basic First Aid
- Packaging and Litter
- Hypothermia
- Helicopter Safety
- Vehicle Operations
- Professional responsibilities and ethics
- Stress Management
- CERT

How to Join Us

If you have what it takes to be a SAR Explorer, fill out an application form. Send back to the address listed on the form, or bring it to any SAR meeting. We will contact you and your parents for an interview.

If you need more info on the Napa County Sheriff Search and Rescue Unit, go to our website at:

www.napasar.org