

Air Horns for Emergency Communication

Describe protocol	COPE communities may choose to use personal air horns to communicate during disasters to alert residents, workers and visitors of the need for immediate evacuation. This is in addition to standard communication (GroupMe, OneCall Now, Cell phone, landline, etc.) or if there is no other means of communication
What are the steps to implementation?	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Review horns available and determine which type is best for your location and type of communication. (See resources) 2. Purchase horns and distribute to all Community and Neighborhood leaders (may need to secure funding) 3. Test horns in COPE community to determine how they work in that geographical area. 4. Establish communication protocols. What types of emergencies will it be used for? What sound pattern will be used (continuous vs intermittent)? Who sets off the chain? Does this need to be daisy-chained in your geographical region? 5. Educate COPE leaders AND residents about the use of the horns: how they are used, maintained and when they should be used/tested <p>Testing: Annual testing will occur on May 1st initiated by the community leaders</p> <p>Use ear protection when using air horns, they can damage your hearing according to the CDC.</p>
Under what circumstances should the protocol be used?	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Tested and found to be appropriate for community 2. ONLY in an emergency necessitating immediate evacuation and it's SAFE to deploy the horn before leaving. 3. Call 911/Redcom first

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 4. Alert Community Leader 5. Neighborhood Leaders deploy air horn.
Who should implement it?	COPE Community or Neighborhood Leaders
What information, equipment, preparation, training, etc. is needed before implementing?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Leaders and residents participate in testing equipment, wear ear protection, amend protocol as needed annually. 2. Dispose of expired horns.
Is any oversight by fire or public safety officials needed? If so, who?	X No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes, who: Please let your local first responders know what your protocol is for using air horns in your area.
What is the expected outcome?	Alert residents of need to evacuate immediately to save lives.
What information or data is available to support the use of this protocol?	Interesting Blog.
List any resources. (Ex. links to equipment or information online.)	Most horns travel about a half mile on water. They range in price from \$14- 20 and vary in size from 3.5 to 8 oz. Marine suppliers and online shops have them.
Evaluation: Was implementation of the protocol successful? What changes should be made to the protocol?	Must be tested in a COPE Community for effectiveness BEFORE implementation. May not be effective in hilly areas with canyons & high/low geography

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