

VERMONT CAVE RESCUE NETWORK RESOURCE INFORMATION

Name: _____ Date Completed: _____

Address: _____

Phone (Home): _____ Comments: _____

Phone (Work): _____ When: _____ Call at Work? Y / N

Phone (Work): _____ When: _____ Call at Work? Y / N

Phone (Other): _____ Comments: _____

Phone (Other): _____ Comments: _____

E-Mail: _____ E-Mail address is: _____ Work / Home

Circle the choice that best describes your ability:

Horizontal Caving:	None	Weak	Average	Strong
Tight Passages:	None	Weak	Average	Strong
Vertical Caving:	None	Weak	Average	Strong
Technical Rescue Skills:	None	Weak	Average	Strong
Medical:	None	Weak	Average	Strong

Please list any current medical certifications/licenses: _____

National Cave Rescue Commission Courses Taken:

Orientation Weekend Year _____ Location: _____

Weeklong (Level _____) Year _____ Location: _____

Describe any special training, skills, or talents that you have that would be useful during a cave rescue incident, either above ground or below ground:

Describe any special equipment or resources that you have that would be useful during a cave rescue incident, either above ground or below ground:

Send completed form to:

Steve Hazelton
81 Edgerton Street
Rutland, VT 05701
(802) 775-6422

Or e-mail to:
steve.hazelton@rrmc.org

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THE VERMONT CAVE RESCUE NETWORK

Cave rescue in Vermont is the responsibility of the formal emergency agencies (fire, police, EMS). There is no formal Cave Rescue team, agency, or organization in Vermont. However, there are a number of individuals with caving experience and/or understanding of the cave environment who are willing to assist in a cave rescue. To reach these individuals, the Vermont Cave Rescue Network (VCRN) was formed.

The Vermont Cave Rescue Network is not an agency, club or organization - it is simply a resource list of cavers and other individuals willing to respond and assist in the event of need. These individuals bring to the rescue a variety of training and skills, as well as an expressed interest in helping. Because of the diversity of responsibilities that would be involved in a cave rescue, neither caving nor medical backgrounds are required. Participants are encouraged to obtain training in cave rescue techniques, but no one is expected to have expertise in all roles. Participants are not paid for their services, nor can they expect reimbursement for expenses or liabilities incurred in the course of a drill or rescue.

Because the incidences of cave rescues are few, the VCRN has been loosely developed. No standby list is maintained, and there is no guarantee that any assistance will be available. The VCRN functions under the precept that participants who can be reached and are available to help will respond. There are no officers or pre-assigned roles. Other emergency agencies to control the scene and incident, with responding participants working under an Incident Command System structure established by the emergency agencies, filling roles as necessary to the best of their abilities.

It is important to realize that the Cave Rescue Network is only a RESOURCE of cavers and others who understand the cave rescue environment. We legally operate as part of a rescue only with the approval of those responsible for the rescue. We can only offer our assistance and caving expertise to area police, fire, and EMS services and hope it is accepted.

I understand that if I am called as part of the Vermont Cave Rescue Network to assist with a cave rescue, I will be doing so voluntarily as an individual and not part of any agency or organization. I agree to work under the authority of the agencies responsible for the rescue, to include exiting an unsafe situation and/or leaving the rescue scene if so directed. I understand that I am in no obligation to put myself in danger, and may withdraw from the rescue at any time for any reason after notifying the responsible agencies.

I understand that I am responsible for any personal equipment that I bring to the rescue, and that the responsible agencies may or may not choose to use my personal equipment. The responsible agencies will not be responsible for damage or loss to my equipment should they choose to use it during the rescue.

I also understand that I will not receive any pay or other form of reimbursement for my time, expertise, or actions, and that if I am injured or die, neither my heirs or myself will be eligible for any insurance, benefits, or other compensation from any individual, agency, or organization involved in the rescue.

Signed: _____

Date: _____