



## Avoiding Accidents

Here are some tips to help you enjoy a safe backcountry experience:

- Tell a friend where you are going and when you will return. If your plans change, notify your friend.
- Take a cell phone with a charged battery. After calling 911, leaving your phone turned on.
- Take extra water, extra clothing, and a flashlight (even on a day hike). Small injuries can result in your spending the night outdoors.
- Avoid unnecessary risks. You will have another opportunity to enjoy that summit, rock climb, or powder field.

## Join the Team

Visit [SLCOSAR.org](http://SLCOSAR.org) to learn how you can join the Search and Rescue Team. Applications should be submitted to Special Operations building or through the [SLCOSAR.org](http://SLCOSAR.org) website.

### To join the Team you must:

- Be at least 21 years old, a resident of Salt Lake County, and a US citizen.
- Have a high school diploma or GED, and a Utah driver's license.
- Have a current medical certification of First Responder or higher (i.e., approximately 50+ hours of training).
- Pass a fitness test, a medical exam, and a detailed background check.

### In addition, you should have:

- A flexible schedule that will allow you to attend 50 to 100 events each year.
- A desire to learn backcountry rescue. Previous rescue experience is not required.
- A willingness to work hard without pay.

## Contact the Team

The Sheriff's Search and Rescue Team can be reached by mail, phone, fax, or online.

Be sure to visit [SLCOSAR.org](http://SLCOSAR.org) for more information.

### Salt Lake County Sheriff's Office Search and Rescue Team

3510 South 700 West  
Salt Lake City, UT 84119

Voice: 385.468.9552

Fax: 385.468.9551

For More Information Visit  
[SLCOSAR.org](http://SLCOSAR.org)

In an Emergency  
Dial 911

## Make a Contribution

The Salt Lake County Sheriff's Search and Rescue Team is a 501 (c)(3) non-profit organization. Your tax deductible contribution is sincerely appreciated. Contributions are used for training and equipment.

### Search and Rescue Contribution Form

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

**Contributions of any amount are welcome!**

\$50     \$100     \$500     \$ \_\_\_\_\_



Salt Lake  
County  
Sheriff's Office

Search  
& Rescue  
Team





- Avalanches
- Aviation accidents
- Backcountry skiers
- Boaters
- Hikers
- Ice Climbers
- Mass casualty incidents
- Off-road accidents
- Rock climbers
- Snowmobilers
- Snowshoers
- Swift-water victims
- Urban searchers

Visit  
[SLCOSAR.org](http://SLCOSAR.org)



With almost one million people living within a 30-minute drive of the Wasatch mountains, backcountry accidents are almost inevitable. By state law, the Salt Lake County Sheriff's Office is responsible for all search and rescue operations within Salt Lake County.

## Salt Lake County Sheriff's Search and Rescue

The Sheriff's Search and Rescue Team is a non-profit, all-volunteer organization that is on-call 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year. There are approximately 30 members on the team.

The Team is responsible for all search and rescue missions within Salt Lake County. It also provides mutual aid to other counties. The Team is designated as an emergency medical service provider by the State of Utah. All services are provided free of charge.

Team members train throughout the year to prepare for a wide variety of situations. Many of the rescuers have extensive experience in mountaineering, backcountry skiing, and outdoor emergency medicine.

Team members come from all walks of life, including business owners, medical professionals, ski patrollers, engineers, secretaries, etc. These are dedicated men and women who spend many long days and night helping lost and injured individuals.

### The Rescues

When someone becomes lost or injured in the mountains or rivers in Salt Lake County, the Salt Lake County Sheriff's Office is notified. This usually happens when somebody calls 911. The Sheriff's Office then activates the Search and Rescue Team by pager and text. The Team is typically "called out" 50-60 times each year.

The missions cover a wide variety of situations in a variety of environments. Approximately half of the calls occur during the summer months of June, July and August when more people are enjoying Salt Lake County's world-class recreational opportunities. Missions often run late into the night and occasionally last for several days.



### THE TEAM

- Searches for lost or missing people in the mountains.
- Rescues injured hikers and climbers (*often in steep, technical areas*).
- Rescues lost or injured winter enthusiasts including ice climbers, skiers, snowboarders, snowmobilers, and snowshoers.
- Performs swift-water rescue and recovery in creeks and rivers, and rescues boaters on the Great Salt Lake.
- Searches for and aids people involved in plane crashes and automobile accidents in remote or difficult terrain.
- Searches urban areas for missing people.
- Helps the Unified Police Dept. search for crime scene evidence.

### THE EQUIPMENT

To execute a wide variety of rescues, the Search and Rescue Team has the following equipment:

- All terrain vehicles (ATVs)
- Avalanche rescue gear
- Navigation equipment (maps, GPS, mapping software, etc)
- Medical supplies
- Mobile command post
- Mobile communications center
- Personal watercraft
- Rock, ice, and high-angle climbing gear
- Snowmobiles
- Swift-water rescue/recovery equipment
- Zodiac boats

