EPT FAMILY MESH — GUIDE FOR ADULTS

How to use your node, run your family channel, and lead your household when systems fail · CHW EPT · Keep with your family emergency plan

WHAT YOU HAVE

Your node is a small radio on your family's private mesh network. It sends **text messages** and **location** to your family's other nodes — no cell service, no internet, no monthly fees. Every node also relays messages for the others, so a message can hop across the neighborhood to reach home. Your family's channel is private and encrypted; only your family's nodes hold the key.

EVERYDAY USE — THE FIVE BASICS

1. **Turn it on and let it find the mesh.** Give it a minute. A node near a window, or carried on your person, hears the network best.
2. **Charge it like a phone.** Nightly is the habit. A charged node on the counter is a prepared family; a dead node in a drawer is not.
3. **Send short messages.** The mesh loves short text: who you are, where you are, what you need. “Dad — home, all okay.” beats a paragraph.
4. **Check locations, don't chase them.** Your family's nodes share position on the mesh map. Look first, message second.
5. **Keep the antenna honest.** Antenna up, node out of metal boxes and basement corners. Height and open air are range.

WHEN SOMETHING HAPPENS — THE FAMILY PROTOCOL

1. **If phones work and anyone is in danger, call 911 first.** The mesh is your backup layer, never a substitute for emergency services.
2. **Send your status on the family channel:** name, location, condition, needs. Example: “MOM — at home, power out, we are fine, need nothing.”
3. **Keep the check-in times from your family plan:** _____ and _____. If you miss one, family comes looking — that is the point of the plan.
4. **Conserve battery.** Shorter messages, fewer location pings, screen off between check-ins. A node that lasts three days calmly beats one that dies loud on day one.
5. **Leave relay nodes alone.** If your home hosts a relay (window or rooftop), it stays on, stays plugged in, stays put. It is carrying your neighbors too.

IF A MESSAGE DOESN'T GET THROUGH

- Move — a window, a doorway, higher ground. A few steps can complete the path.
- Wait — the mesh stores and forwards. When any node hears yours, your message moves.
- Re-send once, short. Then hold your battery and try at the next check-in time.

CARE, LOSS, AND HELP

- Keep the node dry and out of extreme heat. Charge with the cable it came with.
- **Lost or damaged node:** tell the EPT team the same day — we remove the lost unit from your family channel so your privacy holds, and arrange a replacement.
- **Adding family:** new nodes join only through the EPT team, so your channel stays yours.
- Members: your plan includes drills and service — use them. A family that has practiced is a family that stays calm.

EPT TEAM LINE: 857-800-6078 · chwworkforce@gmail.com — questions, replacements, extra nodes, drill scheduling.

EPT nodes send text and location only — no voice. Range varies with terrain and buildings; typical hops are 1–3 miles and extend through relaying nodes. Not a substitute for 911. Guide v1 — November 2026.