

We can't wait until disaster strikes. It will be too late.



We must be prepared ahead of time!

Damascus Emergency Communications Team (DECT)

A DVFD affiliate



Your community in
action helping to
alleviate disaster in
our neighborhoods

The Damascus Emergency Communications Team (DECT) is an Amateur (or “Ham”) Radio organization. Its primary mission is to support the **Damascus Volunteer Fire Department (DVFD)** during emergency situations by providing independent additional and backup communications when normal communications become compromised or inadequate.

DECT is mainly composed of Amateur Radio operators who are licensed by the FCC (Federal Communications Commission).

DECT is always looking for new members, either already licensed or "newbies" who aren't. All you need is the desire to participate in and support our activities (and, if you are not licensed, the wish to become so).

A license requires passing an FCC approved examination and we can mentor and help you learn enough to do that. By the way, knowledge of Morse Code is no longer required.

DECT is affiliated with DVFD—most club members are also DVFD members, and *they* constitute the Fire Chief's Emergency Communications Support Committee. The Chief activates the Committee (and DECT) for emergencies or for public service events.

DECT meets the 2nd Tuesday of each month at 7:30 pm normally in the DVFD Station in Damascus. Meetings are temporarily being held in the Damascus United Methodist Church Annex and via Zoom. We are open to all who can help carry out our mission (regardless of age). Visitors are welcome, so please come and check us out.

DVFD has equipped us with two VHF/UHF radio transceivers at the fire station to use for net control and to interface with fire department operations.

DECT is an Affiliated Club of the Amateur Radio Relay League (ARRL), the national association for Amateur Radio which was

founded in 1914.

If you are currently a licensed ham (or interested in becoming one), please contact us and join in this vital endeavor. Our goal is to be able to provide critical communications to all Damascus area neighborhoods in the event of an emergency. We need all the help we can get.

We also invite civic groups, religious organizations, homeowners associations, scout groups, and other organizations to please consider participating.

**Your community needs you!
We must be prepared to meet
our needs.**

To learn more about us or join DECT, E-mail kb3qan@qsl.net, visit our website at <http://www.qsl.net/kb3qan>, or come to one of our meetings.