

URBAN SEARCH AND RESCUE CANNINE COURSE

PURPOSE

The purpose of this course is to provide individuals with responsibilities for training and managing canines used in collapsed structure rescue, the knowledge and skills necessary to develop, train, and employ special task canines and handlers to locate trapped viable victims within collapsed structures.

US&R Canine Course:

- **6- day course**
- **4 instructors**
- **8 participants**

TARGET AUDIENCE

Urban Search and Rescue responders i.e.; Fire Departments, Police Departments and Rescue Groups associated with the government emergency response system.

PERFORMANCE OBJECTIVE

Given a simulated collapsed structure situation, participants working in teams of 8 will plan and conduct a search for live victims utilizing canines they have trained and managed. Search techniques will be in accordance with procedures taught in the course.

INSTRUCTIONAL OBJECTIVES

At the completion of this course, the participants will be able to:

- Train and maintain a canine to in the five disciplines of, Urban Search and Rescue.
- Determine the dynamics of human scent within a collapsed structure.
- Develop a search plan to support the overall search operation.
- Identify and select the appropriate strategy and tactics for the proper employment of an Urban.
- Search and Rescue canine during search operations.
- Conduct search operations within a collapsed structure.
- Identify and select the appropriate equipment necessary for the canine and handle.
- Provide emergency medical treatment to an injured Urban Search and Rescue canine.
- Conduct medical evaluation of a Urban Search and Rescue canine prior to and after employment.

COURSE CONTENT

- Introduction to Collapsed Structure Search and Rescue
- Canine Unit Structure
- Canine Obedience
- Canine Agility
- Canine Alert
- Canine Directability
- Canine Search
- Scent Theory
- Canine Behaviour
- US&R Search Strategies and Tactics
- Canine Equipment
- Canine Distress
- Canine Anatomy and Physiology

- Canine Basic Life Support
- Probabilities of Search
- Collapsed Structure Dynamics
- Integration of the Search Component of the search operation
- Building marking system
- Canine Care and Nutrition

METHODOLOGY

The Urban Search and Rescue canine course is taught using an interactive method of learning. The participants interact with the materials, instructors and other participants. Interactive lectures and demonstration practice sessions are used to present the course content with exercises and written evaluations used to assess participant learning.