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May 14th 2013: Heroes to the Rescue: National Disaster Search Dog Foundation

Today we will peer behind the curtain of emergency response with the founder of the National Disaster Search Dog Foundation, Wilma Melville. The foundations mission is to strengthen disaster preparedness in America by partnering rescued dogs with firefighters to find people buried alive in the wreckage of disasters. Find out how the dogs are selected, trained and when or how they have been deployed in most US and international disasters since 9/11.

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Featured Guest



Wilma Melville

The Search Dog Foundation was founded in 1995 by retired schoolteacher, Wilma Melville after her and her Advanced-Certified search dog were deployed to the site of the Oklahoma City bombing. Only one survivor was found by a dog, and it was clear that the country had a severe shortage of Canine Disaster Search Teams. Determined to do something about this alarming gap in our national disaster response network, Wilma founded the National Disaster Search Dog Foundation and designed a program based on the recruitment of rescued dogs and on a streamlined, professional training methodology. Her goal was to improve the way search dogs were chosen, trained, and to partner them with firefighters and o

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