

Safety Site

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Recreational Safety takes Responsibility and Control

Doug Barr is sharing his knowledge of a new emergency software called

Emergency Satellite Texting

So, like many of us, you're enjoying tree skiing at your favorite resort. But you got a little carried away and forgot to make that last turn back towards the groomed trail and the lift because the powder was so good. You're now not able to get back to the ski area without a hike and the snow is deep and your knees aren't up for that.

Or maybe you're skiing alone (not safe) and get hurt. Or you just took a wrong turn and can't get back to the groomed trails.

Maybe you're driving over the pass during winter and have slid off the road and need help but there's no cell service.

It might be that you're hiking a new trail and get turned around and it's getting dark and you're out of food and water and didn't bring that extra layer.

The common problem is you don't have a cell phone connection. After all, we like to go play in the forest away from civilization and ironically away from cell phone towers.

For those of you with an iPhone 14 or newer phone running iOS 18 or newer operating software, you can use your phone without cell service to send a text message. The newer software allows you to contact a satellite to send a text. This is a free feature of the newer software starting in 2025.

Here is a link to a short video about how to use this feature. You'll probably need to unmute it. **<https://www.facebook.com/reel/1317548896154537>**

Here is the written version of the video:

Emergency SOS via Satellite is a feature available on iPhone 14 or newer phones using iOS 18 software. If you're in an area with no cellular or Wi-Fi coverage, your iPhone will automatically try to connect you via satellite. To use this feature, swipe down from the top

right corner of your iPhone to open Control Center, then tap the Cellular button and choose Emergency SOS via satellite.