



West Virginia Emergency Management Division Lost Person Behavior

Location: Buckhannon Public Safety Complex, 24 South Florida Complex, Buckhannon, WV 26201

Instructors: Natural Awareness Tracking School, LLC.

Course Dates: March 14,15, 2026 - 8:00 am to 5:00 pm.

There will be a limit of 50 students for this class

Course Description: The Lost Person Behavior Course is a two-day classroom workshop (16 hours) based on Dr. Robert Koester's *Lost Person Behavior* research and is designed to support search planning for both ground searchers and command staff. Students will be introduced to the latest information and research re-garding the lost person behavioral profiles, including important subject background information, implications for search and rescue, search statistics, behavioral statistics, and how to plan a search for each subject type. Particular emphasis is placed on the newer research concerning people with Alzheimer's, despondency, intellectual disabilities/ psychosis and abducted children. The instructors present opportunities to work several practical scenarios that leave attendees with basic knowledge, skills, and confidence to create a strategic and tactical plan for their next missing persons operation. Before arriving in class, students will benefit from downloading the free Lost Person Behavior App into their phone/tablet and gaining some famili-arity with SARTopo via the free CalTopo app/online platform. Students will receive Dr. Koester's *LPB* book, a *LPB* workbook, and the *Endangered and Vulnerable Adults & Children* handbook.

**Students will need to register through - <https://tinyurl.com/3wj2zzbt>
or scan the QR code for a direct link.**

**Please contact David J. Weller with questions about registration at
dweller@wvesc.org or 304-596-2653**

**If you have questions, please contact Jeff Cunningham, SAR Training Officer
at 304-414-7682 or 304-941-6025. Email: jeff.o.cunningham@wv.gov**

