PHRED SEZ.....

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Cell Phone Setting for Location Based Services

Location Based Services (LBS) offer a process by which cell phone companies can identify your location based on triangulation of the intensity of your hand set signal to various cell towers. This may be an important feature if you are by yourself, don't know where you are, and need assistance because of health or accident.

What many people do not understand is that you need to make a forced choice between one of two settings "Location On" and "911 Only" on your cell phone. "911 Only" is the default setting when you receive your phone. But it is a more limited setting, allowing government entities with those tracking capabilities to find you **if you place a call to them**. In an accident you may not be able to place the call! Furthermore many rural areas do not have 911 capabilities.

"Location On" is the expanded setting allowing government and cell phone companies to find you with no action on your part. Since I am not worried about privacy rights when I need help, I set my hand set to "Location On". With this setting turned on, you can still place calls to 911 when operational in your area, but your turned-on, battery-powered handset can also be located with what the industry refers to as GPS. Technically it does not use Global Positioning System satellites, but instead relies on cell tower signal intensity from your handset.

On my ***Verizon*** cell phone I went to *Menu, Setup, and Location*. In Location there is a forced choice between "Location On" and "911 Only". Choose the one you want and touch OK or Enter. With "911 Only" set on my phone, there is a small icon on the opening screen consisting of a circle with a plus sign in the middle. With "Location On", the same circle/plus icon has three radiating semicircles next to it, as if there are sound waves emanating from it. If the reference guide that came with your cell phone does not have directions for setting Location Based Services, check with your cell phone provider or with your hand set manufacturer's technical assistance personnel for the specifics for setting your phone.

With our mobile lifestyle, a cell phone with Location Based Services set to "Location On" is an extra insurance policy. Don't leave home without it!

Refrigerator Fresh

What do you do to keep your refrigerator smelling fresh between camping trips? Some folks keep both doors open after unloading the food, wipe down the freezer frost after it has thawed, and then walk away from the open doors until their next trip. Using this method prevents the development of odors in the refrigerator, but the doors are in the walkway space every time you go past them until the next outing. Since we have not addressed this topic recently, a reminder seems appropriate.

Marion Coster, WBCCI #2801, suggests unloading all food, then placing several paper towels in the freezer and refrigerator to soak up moisture, then closing both doors and walking away. The next morning she opens the doors and uses the paper towels to finish drying the refrigerator. Finally she takes regular newspapers, balls an appropriate amount of sheets to cantaloupe-size, and fills both the refrigerator and freezer compartments with this newspaper. She finishes by closing both doors.

When ready to reuse the refrigerator again, she unloads the paper and the refrigerator smells absolutely fresh. The paper has soaked up any remaining moisture from the last trip, and the ink and paper leave a refreshingly clean scent. In addition the magnetized rubber gasket on each door seems to respond better to being in the closed position between trips. Since the price is right, she recommends you give it a try!

The new book, Phred Sez - the First Ten Years, is now available on computer CD (written in Microsoft Works and also Microsoft Word). Order by mail for yourself or for loved ones by sending a check for $15 each (includes shipping)

Help me with topics for the PHRED SEZ column. Send your creative experiences and ideas by US mail, E-Mail, Fax, or phone:

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