



LEARN DISASTER RESPONSE SKILLS!

WEST COUNTY CERT is now recruiting new members

WEST COUNTY CERT is comprised of those who live and/or work in Buena Park, Cypress, La Palma, Los Alamitos, Seal Beach, Rossmoor, and Westminster and their attached communities.

WEST COUNTY CERT CLASSES

The 20-hour FEMA approved course includes Disaster Preparedness, Medical Ops I & II, Light Search and Rescue, Fire Suppression, Team Organization and Disaster Psychology

*2017 CERT CLASS SCHEDULE:

Friday, April 7 6:00pm to 9:00pm

Saturday, April 8 8:00am to 5:00pm

Friday, April 14 6:00pm to 9:00pm

Saturday, April 15 8:00am to 5:00pm

*Four days equal one class

LOCATION:

Joint Forces Training Base
Veterans Service Center
Building 244
11200 Lexington Drive
Los Alamitos, CA 90720



REGISTRATION: email WestCountyCertAcademy@gmail.com

or call (714) 229-6625.

CERT training may be used just for your family, or in neighborhoods, businesses, and schools. Trained CERT members realize that in the event of a major disaster they may be required to rely on themselves and their neighbors to handle emergencies until first responders arrive.



Frequently Asked Questions

Q: What is CERT?

A: The Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) Program educates people about disaster preparedness for hazards that may impact their area and trains them in basic disaster response skills, such as fire safety, light search and rescue, team organization, and disaster medical operations. With this training, CERT members can assist themselves and their families, plus others in their neighborhood or workplace following an event when professional responders are not immediately available to help.

Q: Why take the CERT training?

A: The primary reason for CERT training is to give people the decision-making, organizational, and practical skills to offer immediate assistance to family members, neighbors, and associates while waiting for help. While people will respond to others in need without the training, the goal of the CERT program is to help people do so effectively and efficiently without placing themselves in unnecessary danger.

Q: How does CERT benefit the community?

A: People who go through CERT training have a better understanding of the potential threats to their home, workplace and community, and can take the right steps to lessen the effects of these hazards on themselves, their homes or workplace. When a disaster happens that overwhelms local response capability, CERT members can apply the training learned in the classroom, and during exercises, to give critical support to their family, loved ones, neighbors or associates in their immediate area until help arrives. CERT members can also assist with non-emergency projects that improve the safety of the community.

Q: Who can take the training?

A: It is open to anyone 18 years or older; 16+ with parent or guardian permission; 14+ with parent or guardian participation.

Q: What if I want to do more than just the basic training?

A: CERT members can increase their knowledge and capability by attending classes on animal care, special needs concerns, donation management, community relations, shelter management, debris removal, utilities control, advanced first aid, Automatic External Defibrillator use, CPR skills, and others. CERT member also can use their skills to help the program flourish by volunteering for scheduled events.

Q: What if I have concerns about my age or physical ability?

A: There are many jobs within a CERT for someone who wants to be involved and help, such as documentation, comforting others, logistics, etc. Non-disaster related team activities may include keeping databases, developing a website, writing a newsletter, planning activities, helping with special events and organizing exercises and activities.

During CERT classroom training, if one has a concern about doing a skill like lifting, just let the instructor know. You can learn from watching. We would like everyone who wants to go through the training to have an opportunity to participate and learn the skills. CERT educates participants about local hazards and trains them in skills that are useful during disaster and life's everyday emergencies.

Q: What about liability?

A: The text of the Volunteer Protection Act of 1997 is available for viewing. Also there is information about State Liability Laws located on the Citizen Corps website. During training, each sponsoring agency should brief its CERT members about their responsibilities as a CERT member and volunteer. www.citizenscorps.gov