



San Diego Fire-Rescue Department Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) San Diego

Firefighters and Citizens Working Together to Build Safer Communities

The City of San Diego Fire-Rescue department has learned two valuable lessons from responding to disasters such as wildfires, earthquakes, floods, mudslides and terrorism events: 1) *there are never enough public safety resources to get to every neighborhood quickly* and 2) *citizens want to help*.

An innovative new program helps meet this need: ***Community Emergency Response Team (CERT)***.

The goal is to help families, neighbors, businesses and communities get through the first few hours or days following a disaster before help arrives. In the first 72 hours after a large-scale disaster, first responders may be overwhelmed, due to the magnitude of the event. The availability of CERT teams, made up of community members trained in basic disaster response, fire safety, light search and rescue, incident command organization and disaster medical operations will help neighborhoods survive.

Tuition-free CERT classes

CERT San Diego is taught by San Diego Fire-Rescue personnel. There is no tuition for these hands-on six-week CERT academies for City of San Diego residents. Students learn how to make their homes and neighborhoods safer, build a disaster kit, learn to combat “the three killers”, how to use fire extinguishers and how to form a team working with the Fire Department in disaster situations. Students attend classes on evenings and weekends. ***CERT San Diego*** trains hundreds of citizen volunteers each year and is building CERT teams in communities throughout San Diego. CERT volunteers stay active through annual refresher courses and drills, community activities and team building. CERT graduates wear distinctive green vests and hats and will be issued ID cards identifying them as Disaster Service Workers upon attending their first CERT refresher class. CERT volunteers are men and women of all backgrounds that are active in the community – or want to be. CERT teams are easiest to build as part of existing community, business or faith groups, non profits, neighborhood watch groups or Homeowners Associations.

Academy 18 Spring 2008 6 weeks February 21—March 29

NOTE: Class supplies required: \$55 CERT textbook and CERT “Go Bag” with CERT vest and helmet, flashlight, work gloves, medical gloves, eye protection and face mask - (you may purchase ours or your own elsewhere).

Download applications for this class from our website!

Website: www.CERTsandiego.org

Information: (619) 533-3075

Email: cert@sandiego.gov



CERT SAN DIEGO (COMMUNITY EMERGENCY RESPONSE TEAM)

18th Academy: Six week traditional academy February-March 2008

Students attend a six-week class with one four hour class per week—*either* Thursday night *or* Saturday morning. Classes are taught at the San Diego Fire-Rescue Training facility near San Diego airport. The final class includes a final exam review, final disaster drill and graduation ceremony. CERT graduates are taught to national CERT standards, compliant with NIMS and certified Disaster Service Worker (DSW).

Class materials fee -\$55 for textbook and CERT “Go Bag” (CERT backpack, goggles, CERT helmet, CERT vest, work gloves, medical gloves, flashlight, and face mask) – available at class (at our cost) or you may provide your own.

DAY/DATE (<i>Students attend one class each week</i>)	TIME	MODULE	SUBJECT
CLASS 1) Thursday, February 21 (A)	6-10pm	Module I	Disaster Preparedness, Introduction to CERT
CLASS 1) Saturday, February 23 (A)	830am-1230	Module I	Disaster Preparedness, Introduction to CERT
CLASS 2) Thursday, February 28 (B)	6-10pm	Module II	Fire Safety, extinguisher use
CLASS 2) Saturday, March 1 (A)	830am-1230	Module II	Fire Safety, extinguisher use
CLASS 3) Thursday, March 6 (B)	6-10pm	Module III, IV	Disaster Medical triage and treatment
CLASS 3) Saturday, March 8 (A)	830am-1230	Module III, IV	Disaster Medical triage and treatment
CLASS 4) Thursday, March 13 (C)	6-10pm	Module V	Search and Rescue, cribbing
CLASS 4) Saturday, March 15 (C)	830am-1230	Module V	Search and Rescue, cribbing
CLASS 5) Thursday, March 20 (A)	6-10pm	Module VI, VII	IC, Documentation, hands-on skills
CLASS 5) Saturday, March 22 (C)	830am-1230	Module VI, VII	IC, Documentation, hands-on skills
CLASS 6) Saturday, March 29 (A)	8:30am-1230	Module VIII FINAL	Final exam, disaster drill, graduation