CERT

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES FIRE DEPARTMENT

COMMUNITY EMERGENCY RESPONSE TEAM

CERT training can be arranged for evening classes (one night a week for 7 weeks), or Saturday classes (3 Saturdays). We can also arrange other schedules that would be mutually convenient. If you know of a group (minimum 20, maximum 40) who would like to receive this training, please contact:

Los Angeles County
Fire Department

Public Affairs
CERT Unit
1320 N. Eastern Avenue
Los Angeles, CA 90063

Phone: (888) CERT-939
e-mail: CERT@fire.lacounty.gov

for more information visit us at:

www.fire.lacounty.gov

Los Angeles County Fire Department
Public Affairs — CERT Unit
1320 N. Eastern Avenue
Los Angeles, California 90063-3294

COMMUNITY EMERGENCY RESPONSE TEAM

presented by the
County of Los Angeles Fire Department

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES FIRE DEPARTMENT
COMMUNITY EMERGENCY RESPONSE TEAM

MISSION

To promote hazard identification and mitigation in an effort to minimize the effects of a disaster on a community and facilitate recovery.

HISTORY

The CERT Program was first developed by the Los Angeles Fire Department in 1985, and the first CERT Team completed its training in early 1986. The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) now uses the program as the national model for other communities, and President Bush endorses this training as part of the Citizen Corps Program. Through this program, President Bush encourages increased homeland defense on a community-by-community basis. In June 2003, the Los Angeles County Fire Department implemented its department-wide CERT Training Program.

WHO ARE CERT STUDENTS?

- School Administrators and Teachers
- Public Agency Workers
- Church Members
- Homeowners Association Groups
- City Employees
- Business and Industry
- Community Groups
- Concerned Citizens

WHY SHOULD I TAKE CERT?

Webster's Dictionary defines a disaster as "any event that overwhelms existing resources to deal with the event." Within the first five minutes of a disaster, all available resources will have been committed, leaving you and your neighbors or co-workers to help yourselves. CERT can minimize the effects of a disaster and facilitate recovery.

CERT OBJECTIVES

Upon completion of the CERT program, you will be able to:

- Describe the types of hazards that are most likely to affect your home and community
- Take steps to prepare yourself for a disaster
- Identify and reduce potential fire hazards in your home or workplace
- Conduct triage under simulated disaster conditions
- Perform head-to-toe patient assessments
- Employ basic treatments for various wounds, and apply splints to suspected fractures and sprains
- Describe ways to protect rescuers during light search and rescue operations

WHAT WILL I LEARN?

The CERT program is a FREE, 20-hour training program, broken up into the following units:

UNIT 1: Disaster Preparedness

- Introduction to disasters
- Impact of disasters on infrastructures
- Role of CERT's in disaster response

UNIT 2: Disaster Fire Suppression

- Fire Chemistry and basic fire suppression
- Identifying and reducing potential fire hazards
- Firefighting resources and techniques
- Introduction to Hazardous Materials Incidents

UNIT 3: Disaster Medical Operations I

- Treatment strategies for life-threatening conditions
- Principles of Triage

UNIT 4: Disaster Medical Operations II

- Head-to-Toe patient Assessments
- Establishing treatment areas
- Treatments for burns, lacerations, fractures, sprains, and other injuries

UNIT 5: Light Search and Rescue Operations

- Search and rescue priorities and resources
- Size-up techniques and rescuer safety
- Lifting, cribbing, and victim removal

UNIT 6: Disaster Psychology & Organization

- Post-disaster emotional environment
- CERT organization: Incident Command System
- CERT decision-making and documentation

UNIT 7: Terrorism

- Risk and threat analysis
- Types of terrorism weapons
- Travel and terrorism

UNIT 8: Course Review and Simulation

- Course Review
- Disaster simulation drill