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Getting Started

This newsletter is being sent out to help you stay in the loop and updated on what is happening with CERT in our community. A newsletter will be sent quarterly (January, April, July and October). If you have any suggestions for content please contact one of us [your CERT Team Leaders].

WE HOPE YOU FIND THIS NEWSLETTER AND INFORMATION HELPFUL!

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CERT Training

We are currently in the process of offering another CERT class. Current CERT members are welcome to join the classes for a refresher – you won't receive a manual or backpack, so bring the stuff you received in your original class. A light supper will be served at each class. Classes start at 6:00 p.m. and will end around 8:00-9:00 p.m.

- March 28 – Fire Safety
- April 4 – CERT Organization and light search & rescue
- April 11 – Terrorism & Disaster Psychology
- April 19 – Medical Operations

May 3 – City Hall Garage, 6:00 p.m.

There are 12 enthusiastic students participating in the current CERT training. A wide range of ages is represented, along with 2 "family groups." What a great idea for a family to take a class together! Whether or not participants decide to sign up to be a CERT volunteer, the training is invaluable in everyday life.

Please contact Lynda Alfson at 701-642-1263 or 701-640-4801 if you would or know anyone who would like to sign up to participate.

Did You Know?

Did you know that teachers may be eligible for Continuing Education credits just by taking a CERT class?

Please pass this information

along to your teach acquaintances. If they are interested in more information, ask them to Lynda Alfson at 701-642-1263 or 701-640-4801.



National CERT Newsletter

CERT Newsletter - Volume 3 - Issue 3, January 2011

The CERT National Program Office is pleased to present the first 2011 "CERT National Newsletter." This is an exciting edition and features an informative story on Haiti CERT's response to the devastating earthquake there a year ago. Also, be sure to read the stories on the rodeo in Guam that refreshes disaster readiness skills, and how a "disability" is a special skill in disguise. You will also learn how to promote CERT in your community and see what other programs are doing across the country. [Click here to read the newsletter.](#)



Sandbagging



Thanks to everyone who helped on Saturday, March 19, with sandbagging. We had 42 volunteers sign in with an estimated 129 volunteer hours bagging and an estimated 3,000 sandbags filled! CERT's efforts are greatly appreciated – your services are invaluable to our community!

Darcie Huwe, Finance Director
City of Wahpeton

CPR Training

Three sessions were held for CPR Training; fifteen people were trained in adult CPR, child CPR, and AED use: 8 current CERT volunteers, 4 future CERT volunteers, and 3 family members.



For those who participated in the CPR Training, you may pick your cards up at the Wahpeton Police Department, 413 3rd Avenue North, anytime Monday thru Friday, 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. Use the door on the north side of the building, near the east side. The secretaries are on the left as you go in, and they will have your cards.

CodeRED

We are in the process of updating the CERT category of the CodeRED emergency warning system with phone numbers you have previously provided to Lynda Alfson, CERT Coordinator. CodeRED will be used to notify CERT members when they are needed to serve. In order to put your cell phone number in the CodeRED system it is helpful to

if you receive text messages. If you have not done so already, please call Penny at 642-2392 as soon as possible with the following information:

- Cell phone number including area code:
- Cell phone provider:
- Do you receive text messages?;

This information will only be used for the CodeRED system to notify CERT members when their assistance is needed in emergency situations. Thanks for your help!



Upcoming Training Events

- ⇒ Are you interested in brushing up your skills learned in CERT Training? Training is available at: <http://www.citizencorps.gov/cert/IS317/> Another way to brush up on your skills is to sit in on a current running CERT course. Please contact Lynda Alfson if you are interested.
- ⇒ We are in the process of planning a "sky watching" session open to CERT volunteers and the community at large in late May or early June. Date and Time are yet TBD. Watch your email for details.
- ⇒ First Aid Training will be offered in August/September to all CERT Members.
- ⇒ CPR Training will be offered again this fall. Please contact Penny Seifert if you are interested.

Are you ready?

Do you and your neighbors know what to do...

- ★ **In the event of a natural disaster?**
 - ★ **If a man-made disaster strikes?**
 - ★ **If confronted by crime or an act of terrorism?**



Training helps you be prepared

The Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) program educates people about disaster preparedness and trains them in basic disaster response skills. Using their training, CERT members can assist others in their neighborhood or workplace following a disaster and can take a more active role in preparing their community.



This program is for beginners. Ask a friend to join you.
For more information contact Lynda Alfson at 701-642-1263 or the
Wahpeton Law Enforcement Center at 701-642-7777.

Call today!