

Forsyth CERT



TRAIN TOGETHER, WORK TOGETHER, RESPOND TOGETHER

Forsyth CERT (Community Emergency Response Team) is committed to providing emergency assistance to our community before, during and after a disaster.

Description:

Forsyth CERT has been developed to be a well-trained civilian emergency volunteer force. CERT assists local government by responding during disaster situations where the number and scope of incidents may have overwhelmed conventional emergency services.

The ability of the community to effectively recover from the devastating effects of a disaster requires the active participation, planning and cooperation of all levels of the population. The fundamental responsibility for preparedness still lies with every individual.

Forsyth CERT actively recruits volunteers, provides disaster preparedness and response training, and conducts public outreach activities.

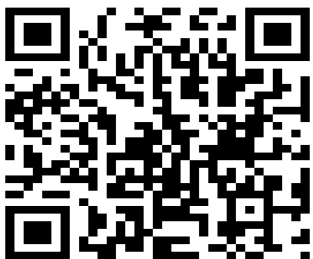
CERT HISTORY:

The Community Emergency Response Team concept was developed and implemented by the Los Angeles City Fire Department (LAFD) in 1985. The Whittier Narrows earthquake in 1987 underscored the area-wide threat of a major disaster in California. Further, it confirmed the need for training civilians to meet their immediate needs. As a result, the LAFD created the Disaster Preparedness Division with the purpose of training citizens and private and government employees.

The training program that LAFD initiated makes good sense and furthers the process of citizens understanding their responsibility in preparing for disaster. It also increases their ability to safely help themselves, their family and their neighbors. The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) recognizes the importance of preparing citizens. The Emergency Management Institute (EMI) and the National Fire Academy adopted and expanded the CERT materials believing them applicable to all hazards.

The CERT course will benefit any citizen who takes it. This individual will be better prepared to respond to and cope with the aftermath of a disaster. Additionally, if a community wants to supplement its response capability after a disaster, civilians can be recruited and trained as neighborhood, business, and government teams that, in essence, will be auxiliary responders. These groups can provide immediate assistance to victims in their area, organize spontaneous volunteers who have not had the training, and collect disaster intelligence that will assist professional responders with prioritization and allocation of resources following a disaster. Since 1993 when this training was made available nationally by FEMA, communities in 28 States and Puerto Rico have conducted CERT training.

FOR TRAINING OPPURTUNITIES PLEASE GO TO READYFORSYTH.ORG AND GO TO THE CERT LINK. YOU CAN ALSO FOLLOW US ON FACEBOOK AND TWITTER. PLEASE SCAN THE QR CODE TO ACCESS FACEBOOK.



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