



C.E.R.T. in Action in Salem County

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CERT members assist Health Department with H1N1 Clinics.

Salem County C.E.R.T. volunteers answered the call for assistance from the Cumberland/Salem County Health Departments by providing over 150 man hours of volunteer time to assist at H1N1 Clinics held throughout the county in October through December. See page 3 for upcoming dates.

Volunteers assisted the Health Department staff setting up the areas, manning registration tables, providing pedestrian traffic direction, keeping the Band-Aids flowing and comforting fearful children.

Team Receives DORIS Training

Members of CERT participated in training on the Dosimetry Tracking

Software (DORIS) used by the State of New Jersey to monitor emergency responders exposure to radiation during Radiological Emergencies. The new skills will allow CERT volunteers to assist in the Emergency Operations Center during emergencies and exercises.

S.C.C. CERT assists in Shelter Exercise

Salem Community College CERT members participated in a simulated weather emergency in November that necessitated the activation of a Red Cross shelter on campus. Members received direction from the Salem County Red Cross on setting up a shelter facility, assisting with registration of evacuees, and typical shelter operations. As a designated Red Cross Shelter in Salem County, SCC CERT members will provide a vital resource to the Red Cross.



CERT CONTACTS

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Team participates in Rehab Training

County CERT members participated in two scheduled activities to provide an overview and information on assisting with Firefighter Rehabilitation.

During the November meeting Karen Ayars who manages Salem Fire Department's "Canteen 6" presented information on how the canteen serves emergency re-

sponders during extended emergencies. A demonstration of the canteen was given and suggestions on how CERT members could assist in the future.

Penns Grove Ambulance Captain Debbie Ashcraft and crew members brought their ambulance and provided an overview of what EMS agencies provide in the way of

rehabilitation services to firefighters. Team members were given information on how they can assist EMS organizations when called upon.

Additionally, four CERT members attended an in-depth Firefighter Rehab training class presented by the Salem County Fire Academy.

About Salem County C.E.R.T.



What is C.E.R.T.?

The Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) program helps train people to be better prepared to respond to emergency situations in their communities. When emergencies happen, CERT members can give critical support to first responders, provide immediate assistance to victims, and organize spontaneous volunteers at a disaster site. CERT members can also help with non-emergency projects that help improve the safety of the community. CERT is a nationwide initiative.

The events of September 11 will

never be forgotten; also not forgotten is how the spirit of America was awakened that day and citizens came forth to volunteer their services. President George W. Bush harnessed this spirit of volunteerism with the Citizen Corps program. CERT is a part of the Citizen Corps Program.

In Salem County, C.E.R.T. is jointly sponsored and coordinated by the Salem County Office of Emergency Management and the Salem County Sheriff's Office. Volunteer opportunities exist for the Salem County and Salem Community College Teams.

How Can I Join?

To become a CERT member you must be at least 18 years of age.

If you want to volunteer your services and become trained to protect yourself and families from disasters; natural or man-made contact the Salem County Office of Emergency Management at (856) 769-2900 ext. 4118

Persons affiliated with Salem Community College interested in joining the College Team should contact Denise Marconi at (856)299-2100

What will I Learn?

CERT training will teach participants to:

- Describe the types of hazards most likely to affect their homes and communities.
- Describe the function of CERT and their roles in immediate response.
- Take steps to prepare themselves for disaster.
- Identify and reduce potential fire hazards in their homes and workplaces.
- Work as a team to apply basic

fire suppression strategies, resources, and safety measures to extinguish a burning liquid.

- Apply techniques for opening airways, controlling bleeding, and treating shock.
- Conduct triage under simulated conditions.
- Perform head-to-toe assessments
- Select and set up a treatment area.
- Employ basic treatments for various wounds.
- Identify planning and size-up

requirements for potential search and rescue situations.

- Describe the most common techniques for searching a structure.
- Use safe techniques for debris removal and victim extrication.
- Describe ways to protect rescuers during search and rescue.

Did you know?

There are over 10,000 Citizen Corps volunteers in 2008 New Jersey Communities?

CERT—Who Are We?



Friends, neighbors, co-workers, and trained professionals who volunteer their valuable time and resources to make a difference in their workplace and communities. These team members have participated in The Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) training program and have been trained to be prepared to respond to emergency situations in the workplace and their communities.

When emergencies happen, CERT members give critical support to first responders, provide immediate assistance to victims, and organize spontaneous volunteers at a disaster site. CERT members can also help with non-emergency projects that help improve the safety of the workplace and their community. CERT is a nationwide initiative.

What if I have a concern about my age or physical abilities?

There are many jobs within a CERT for someone who wants to be involved and help. CERT members are needed for documentation, comforting others, logistics, etc. Non-disaster related team activities may include keeping databases, developing a website, writing a newsletter and planning.

2010 Basic Training Schedule Announced

Salem County CERT, in cooperation with Salem Community College CERT* will conduct the basic CERT training during the months of February and March. The training sessions will be conducted by CERT Trainers, local emergency response organizations and specialists in the various topics. Training will be conducted on Monday nights and Friday* mornings. Participants will be able to choose either session to attend each week.

Training Topics will include:

- Basic First Aid
- Family Disaster Prepared-

ness

- Disaster Fire Suppression
- Medical Operations
- CERT Operations
- Disaster Mental Health
- Basic Emergency Management

Training for participants will culminate with a Disaster Simulation and Skills Review.

Total training is about 18 hours conducted in 2-4 hour modules. Training sessions will be held at the Salem County Emergency Services Office, Salem Community College* and at local Emergency

Response Organization facilities.

The training course, student materials and equipment are provided free of charge to the students.

Classes begin the week of February 5th. Students may attend Monday night or Friday morning each week. The program will complete with practical exercises the week of March 8.

For additional information or to register call BJ Smith at (856)769-2900 (4118).

**Friday training plan and course at SCC is pending final approval from the College.*



Upcoming CERT Activities

Monthly Meetings: First Thursday of every month

H1N1 Clinics:

- January 6, 4-7 p.m.
- January 7, 4-7 p.m.
- January 11, 4-7 p.m.
- January 14, 4-7 p.m.

(volunteer times are any time between 3 and 8)

RERP Training and Exercises:

- March 24
- April 28
- May 4
- May 18

Dates Pending For:

D.O.R.I.S. Training
Fall Regional Exercise
CPR/First Aid

County Team Seeks Leaders

Salem County CERT members recently developed and approved an organizational structure to enhance the team structure and provide leadership opportunities to members.

Members are being recruited now to fill the top leadership openings.

Listed below is a brief description of the duties of the leadership positions.

President: Preside at meetings of the team; Serve as liaison between the Program Coordinators and the Team; Actively recruit members for the organization; Appoint chairs for special ad-hoc committees when needed. Provide direction for committee chairs.

Vice-President: Assume all duties of the President in their absence. Coordinate activities of committees as needed. Assist in the recruitment efforts of the organization.

Secretary: Record activities at all meetings and forward a copy of minutes to program coordinators

within two weeks of meeting; Keep attendance records for monthly meetings; Maintain electronic communications with members regarding upcoming meeting and training topics; Work with the Program Coordinators to maintain the files of the organization.

Requirements to hold the positions listed above should include active participation and attendance at regularly scheduled CERT meetings; Completion of or scheduled participation in the CERT basic training course; completion of the FEMA ICS 100 course (available online)

In addition to the positions listed above the CERT members have expressed a desire to fill the roles of:

Membership Chair: Assist in the development of strategies to recruit new members.

Training Chair: Assist in the development of accurate training records for members as well as the strategies to identify training needs and opportunities.

Equipment Chair: Work with the Program Coordinators and team members to develop a schedule for maintaining current equipment allocations (including the CERT Trailer), identifying current and future equipment needs.

Team Leaders: Individuals trained to take on lead roles and liaison between incident commanders and CERT members during emergencies and exercises.

If you are interested in taking on a leadership role and would like additional information feel free to contact one of the Program Coordinators.

The offices of President, V.P. and Secretary should be filled at the February meeting. An individual has already stepped up to the plate to take on the role of Training Chair.

Would you like to know more about CERT?

Visit the CERT website at www.citizencorps.gov/cert

Salem County C.E.R.T. News



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New Jersey Citizen Corp Volunteers help their communities prepare for and respond to all types of disasters through education, training and volunteer service. Based on the tradition of "Neighbor helping Neighbor" Citizen Corps programs build strong communities, enhance capabilities of emergency services organizations, and empower individuals to act responsibly and respond appropriately during critical times.

Greetings From:



On behalf of the men and woman of the Salem County Sheriff's Office and the residents of Salem County I would like to thank you for your service. With your help, The Office of the Sheriff and the Emergency Management Agency in Salem County and the State of New Jersey can provide even better protection against disasters and better relief after a disaster. By volunteering your time and expertise, you help keep our community safe.

It is the objective of the Salem County Sheriff's Office to provide the safest possible environment for our citizens by reducing crime and the fear of

crime. We are proactive in our approaches to crime using innovative, resourceful, and aggressive methods to assure the quality of life of our citizens. We invite and solicit the public to become an involved participant in reaching our goals.

The Citizens Emergency Response Team is trained in all aspects of basic disaster relief. Training in basic fire suppression, first aid, advanced first aid with little supplies, structure searching, and what to do when faced with an emergency. This course is free of cost, and upon completion, you will be invited to join a CERT team. To find out more about CERT, contact the Salem County Sheriff's Office.

Again, on behalf my office and family we thank you for all that you do.

Charles M. Miller
Sheriff



Volunteerism is the back bone of this great country. Programs like CERT exemplify the ideology of neighbors helping neighbors and volunteerism. I would like to express my sincere appreciation to the folks that have dedicated their time to make the Salem County CERT program what it is. I would also like to encourage anyone who has time to give to consider volunteering for the CERT program.

There are many tasks to be done, and not all require special skills or abilities. Please

consider volunteering for the Community Emergency Response Team, and help support your community.

Again, **Thank You** to all of our CERT members for all that you do.

Jeff Pompper
OEM Coordinator

