

Do You Know What To Do In An *Emergency*?

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Well, it's like paying for car insurance. You might never need it, in fact you hope you won't. But if the occasion arises, having the CERT training, just like having car insurance, means you're as ready as you can be to help yourself, your family and your neighborhood in an emergency situation.

You will receive 17 1/2 hours of initial training by LAFD personnel. It is provided free of charge within the city of Los Angeles to anyone 18 or over. If you miss a session, you can make it up at another CERT class.

CERT members are trained in basic disaster response skills such as fire safety, light search and rescue, team organization and disaster medical operations. You will learn how to prepare for emergencies, what supplies you should have NOW in your house, how much food and water, but most importantly, how to protect your family (and your neighbors) in an emergency!

It is important to realize when a major disaster occurs, the fire department, paramedics, police...WILL NOT COME! They will be deployed FIRST to major incidents such as collapsed buildings. That is why you constantly hear that you MUST be prepared to take care of yourself. In the CERT course they say...

"The Greatest Good for the Greatest Number of People"

When you are trained, you are far more equipped to deal with your circumstances without needing aid from outside sources.

> Take CERT training for: Yourself Your family Your friends Your workplace Your neighborhood

CERT classes are FREE

You can view the CERT syllabus online: http://www.cert-la.com/cert-syllabus.pdf. Free CERT Class Granada Hills

Knollwood Country Club Fairway Room 12024 Balboa Bl. Granada Hills, 91344

Wednesday

6:30 pm—9:00 pm 10/17, 10/24, 10/31, 11/7, 11/14, 11/21, 11/28

Contact: <u>cert@ghnnc.org</u> Pre-registration required



This was a CERT call-out to assist during the Station Fire. CERT members were a great help by directing traffic, giving directions, and patrolling the Fire Fighting Staging Area at Hansen Dam. This freed up emergency personnel for more critical tasks.



Morning briefing session during the Station Fire.



Free Emergency Preparedness Booklet

Download the Emergency Preparedness Booklet by the Los Angeles Fire Department at

cert-la.com/EmergPrepBooklet.pdf

This is well worth your time and has critical information for you and your family's survival in an emergency.

Class size is limited. To register, send an email to <u>cert@ghnnc.org</u> with your name and contact information. You will receive an e-mail reply within 48 hours.

If a major earthquake or disaster hits, do you

- have enough supplies for a minimum of 72 hours up to an entire month for all family members, including pets?
- know how to turn off the gas?
- know how to safely turn off the power?
- know how to apply first aid?
- have enough water for all of your family and your pets?
- have provisions for living outside your home for a length of time if the structure is compromised?

This CERT class is jointly sponsored by Granada Hills North Neighborhood Council (<u>GHNNC.org</u>) and Patriot Oil Community Benefit Trust Fund (administered by the North Valley Coalition, <u>nodump.com</u>).

We invite you to browse the <u>cert-la.com</u> website, where you will find valuable and instructive information, including other CERT classes offered throughout Los Angeles.



COMMUNITY EMERGENCY RESPONSE TEAM PROGRAM

Los Angeles Fire Department - Disaster Preparedness Section 5021 North Sepulveda Boulevard Sherman Oaks, California 91403 Phone: (818) 756-9674 / Fax: (818) 756-9681 Email: *lafdcert@lacity.org* Website: *www.cert-la.com*

LEVEL 1 SYLLABUS

CLASS 1 - INTRODUCTION, EARTHQUAKE AWARENESS

Registration Introduction Earthquake Threat in Southern California Personal & Family Preparation Nonstructural Hazard Mitigation



CLASS 2 - DISASTER FIRE SUPPRESSION TECHNIQUES

Fire Chemistry Fire Extinguisher Use Utility Control Creative Firefighting Techniques Hazardous Materials / Placarding



CLASS 3 - DISASTER MEDICAL OPERATIONS (SESSION 1)

Recognizing Life-Threatening Emergencies Treating Life-Threatening Emergencies Triage



CLASS 4 - DISASTER MEDICAL OPERATIONS (SESSION 2) AND MULTI-CASUALTY INCIDENT

Head-to-Toe Evaluation Treating Non-Life-Threatening Emergencies Treatment Area Management

CLASS 5 - LIGHT SEARCH & RESCUE OPERATIONS

Evacuation Search Techniques Rescue Methods / Cribbing



CLASS 6 – TEAM ORGANIZATION & DISASTER PSYCHOLOGY

Developing a Response Team Incident Command System "ICS" Psychological "Size-Up"



CLASS 7 – TERRORISM & HOMELAND DEFENSE

History of Terrorism Do's and Don'ts During a Terrorist Act Homeland Defense Tips



PROGRAM OVERVIEW

The Los Angeles Fire Department's **CERT Program** (free of charge) was developed because of the need for a well-trained civilian emergency work force. The CERT Program provides for community self-sufficiency through the development of multifunctional response teams who act as an adjunct to the city's emergency services during major disasters. When emergencies happen, CERT members can give critical support to first responders, and provide immediate assistance to victims. CERT members can also assist with non-emergency projects that help improve the safety of the community. Through this unique program, people from community organizations, business and industry, and city employee groups will become CERT members. They work as team members and perform as individual leaders by directing untrained volunteers in the initial phase of an emergency.

To become a CERT graduate, you must complete the 17½ hour course (Level 1). Level 1 training is taught by professional experienced firefighters and paramedics. The course is followed by continuing education programs, including biannual refreshers.

We encourage our Level 1 graduates to enhance their education. Following the completion of Level 1, the CERT Program also offers Level 2 and Level 3 sequential training through the American Red Cross (ARC). CERT Level 2 includes 12 additional training hours in: "Disaster Services: An Overview," "Mass Care: An Overview," and "Shelter Operations & Shelter Simulations." Currently, these classes are free. ARC Standard First Aid with CPR/AED is also required. There is a fee for these courses. Check your local ARC's or CERT's website for available classes and dates.

After you have completed Levels 1 & 2 training, Level 3 is a 50 plushour "Emergency Response Advanced First Aid" course. A Level 3 CERT member will have completed nearly 80 total hours of training and be capable of effectively assisting the needs within the community. Contact the ARC for dates and cost for this course.

Currently, CERT teams are regionally located within the city according to the Fire Department battalion they live in or work in. Opportunities are available to join and train with a team and potentially become a CERT Battalion Coordinator. Currently, Battalion Coordinators have completed at least Levels 1 & 2 training. These Battalion Coordinators work closely with CERT members and the Fire Department to develop a capable "response-ready" team.

If you are a licensed amateur radio operator (Ham) who desires to serve the Department and the community, the ham radio will back up the Department's 800-MHz radio system and provide radio support to CERT members, their families, and their Battalion Coordinators. Contact Captain Kevin Nida, the Los Angeles Fire Department's City Radio Officer at (213) 978-3536 or e-mail him at kevin.nida@lacity.org.

