



CITY OF MILTON-FREEWATER



COMMUNITY EMERGENCY
RESPONSE TEAM

“Serving the community in times
of greatest need.”

COMMUNITY EMERGENCY RESPONSE TEAM

C.E.R.T.

The Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) Program trains people about disaster preparedness for hazards that may impact their area and trains them in basic disaster response skills, such as fire safety, light search and rescue, team organization, and disaster medical operations. Using the training learned in the classroom and during exercises, CERT members can assist others in their neighborhood or workplace following an event when professional responders are not immediately available to help. CERT members also are encouraged to support emergency response agencies by taking a more active role in emergency preparedness projects in their community.



COMMENTS FROM OUR LEADERS...

Growing up, my parents and neighbors were very involved in the country’s National Civil Defense and Civil Preparedness programs. Civil Defense Shelters with stored food, water and medical supplies were established throughout every city. Even as a child, we

were taught how to prepare for potential disasters. In school, in Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts we were instructed that in order to survive any emergency or disaster we first had to “be prepared” ourselves. Although times have changed, the threat of natural or other disasters is still with us. Nothing brought that to our attention as dramatically as the tragedy of 9-11 or the ravages of Katrina. Most of us have taken CPR and First Aid training to help our families and neighbors in a time of emergency. CERT training goes beyond basic first aid and CPR to teach each person in your family, including young adults, specifically how to prepare ourselves, our families and neighbors to manage emergencies and survive disasters when professional responders are not immediately available to help. If disaster strikes will you and your loved ones “BE PREPARED?” Sign up for CERT today!

CERT encourages families to train together as a team!

---Delphine Palmer, City Manager



“In the event of a large disaster or emergency and emergency responders and resources are overwhelmed, Citizens Corps Organizations such as VIPS and CERT are an invaluable resource to us.” Fire Chief Shane Garner



Photo: **Herb Saager Fire Station #1**

"The CERT program has helped me to learn what I can personally do in any emergency, but especially a catastrophic event for myself, my family, my neighbors and my community. In times of dire circumstances, preparation can be the greatest comfort." Teresa Dutcher, CERT Coordinator and Trainer

"The CERT organization gives citizens the opportunity to serve during such emergencies as fire, light search and rescue or disaster situations in our community. In a major disaster, first-responders can become overwhelmed and need people power. CERT teams are trained and organized by local Emergency Management Agencies. Serving in CERT allows me the opportunity to not only serve my community and help my fellow citizens, but my training may even help me serve my close neighbors and family." ---Ken Holady, CERT Team Leader

RESOURCES

FEMA supports CERT by conducting or sponsoring TTT's (TTT=Train the Trainer) for members of the fire, medical, and emergency management community. The objectives of the TTT are to prepare attendees to promote this training in their community, conduct TTT's at their location, conduct training sessions for neighborhood, business and industry, and government groups, and organize teams with which first responders can interface following a major disaster

CONCLUSION

CERT is about readiness, people helping people, rescuer safety, and doing the greatest good for the greatest number. CERT is a positive and realistic approach to emergency and disaster situations where citizens will be initially on their own and their actions can make a difference. Through training, citizens can manage utilities and put out small fires; treat the three killers by opening airways, controlling bleeding, and treating for shock; provide basic medical aid; search for and rescue victims safely; and organize themselves and spontaneous volunteers to be effective.



Photo: **Fire Training Center**

Look for our training schedule this fall for a certification class near you.

Citizens are welcome to train at our regularly scheduled CERT meetings on the third Tuesday of each month at the Saager Fire Station beginning at 7:00 p.m.