

Deployment Types

- Parades & Festivals
- Emergency Sheltering
- Outreach & Recruiting
- Humanitarian Relief
- Health & Well-Being clinics
- State & Federal Events

Activity Types

- Search & Rescue
- Damage Assessment
- Missing Persons
- Law Enforcement
- Evidence Search Assistance
- Equipment Maintenance Team
- Toy Drives
- Animal Extraction & Relocation
- Emergency Shelter Support
- Communications
- Event logistics
- Good Will Ambassadors



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 your families from disasters, natural or man-made.

For more information:

Contact the Burlington County Office of Emergency Management at 609-518-7200 or visit the Burlington County website at www.co.burlington.nj.us

Become a CERT member today!

Contact our CERT Program Recruiter

John Lazzarotti - CERT Recruiter
1 Academy Drive
Westampton, New Jersey 08060
Telephone: 609-744-7435
E-Mail: jlazzarotti@verizon.net

Provided and Supported by the

**Burlington County
Board of Chosen Freeholders**



**CERT Program of
Burlington County**

Telephone: 609-518-7200
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E-Mail: burlcooem@co.burlington.nj.us

CERT

What is CERT?

Community Emergency Response Teams, or CERT, is a concept developed in 1985 by the Los Angeles Fire Department. They recognized that their citizens would be very likely on their own during the early stages of a catastrophic disaster. Accordingly, the LAFD decided that some basic training in disaster survival and rescue skills would improve the citizens ability to survive until emergency personnel could arrive. CERT teams were created to provide a vital service in the absence of emergency responders. Today more than 38 states and foreign countries have instituted a CERT System.

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 part of Citizen Corps.

ROLE OF CERT IN AN EMERGENCY

CERT has been used to:

1. Search for missing persons or children.
2. Staff Emergency Operations Centers.
3. Assist the Health Department with medicine distribution.
4. Manage Spontaneous / Convergent volunteers.
5. Assist Red Cross and other relief organizations with mass care.

CERT TRAINING WILL TEACH PARTICIPANTS TO:

1. Describe the types of hazards that will most likely affect their homes and communities.
2. Describe the function of CERT and their role in immediate response.
3. Take steps to prepare themselves for a disaster.
4. Identify and reduce potential fire hazards in their homes and workplace.
5. Work as a team to apply basic fire suppression strategies, resources and safety measures to extinguishing a burning liquid.
6. Apply techniques for opening airways, controlling bleeding and treating shock.
7. Conduct triage under simulated conditions.
8. Perform head - to - toe patient assessments.
9. Select and set up treatment areas.
10. Employ basic treatments for various wounds.
11. Identify planning and size-up requirements for potential search and rescue situations.
12. Describe the most common techniques for searching a structure.
13. Use safe techniques for debris removal and victim extrication.
14. Describe ways to protect rescuers during search and rescue operations.

COURSE OVERVIEW

The CERT training consists of twenty hours of initial instruction broken down into various modules. Classes are taught by emergency responders such as law enforcement, firefighters and EMS personnel from the community. The course includes the following:

Session I:
Disaster Preparedness Introduction to disasters specific to the community and the impact of disaster on infrastructure.

Session II:
Disaster Fire Suppression - Identifying and reducing potential fire hazards and basic fire suppression.

Session III:
Disaster Medical Operations Part One - Treatment strategies for life threatening conditions and the principles of triage.

Session IV:
Disaster Medical Operations Part Two - Head - to - toe patient assessment and treatment for various injuries and wounds.

Session V:
Light Search and Rescue Operations - Technique for sizing up and searching, lifting, cribbing and removing victims; rescue safety.

Session VI:
Disaster Psychology and Team Organization - The post disaster emotional environment will be discussed. CERT organization, decision making and documentation.

Session VII:
Terrorism - A brief overview of terrorism weapons, identifying targets in an area and discuss time distance and shielding.

Session VIII:
Animal Response, Module 1 - Animal issues in emergency management and why animal response is an essential component of emergency planning.

Session IX:
Final exercise - Disaster simulation realistic to your community. Graduation.

