



The Ann Arbor Police Department/Office of Emergency Management in conjunction with the Washtenaw County Office of Emergency Management is now accepting applications for the Washtenaw County C.E.R.T. Team (Community Emergency Response Team) Training. The (CERT) Program educates people about disaster preparedness for hazards that may impact their area and trains them in basic disaster response skills. 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. The dates have not been determined yet but it will run sometime early 2010. The course is a combination of classroom sessions and hands-on training in scene assessment, fire safety, emergency medical response, team organization, disaster medical operations, and light search and rescue. The course will also provide information on topics such as, local threats, hazards, county and city emergency management initiatives and incident command and terrorism.

Attendance at all classes is required for certificate of completion.

Citizens interested in participating in this course should call Crime Prevention Specialist Adele El-Ayoubi, ICPS, with the Ann Arbor Police Department at 734-794-6933 or log on to the City website at www.a2gov.org . All applicants agree to a background investigation and will be notified if they have been accepted into the course. Seating is limited, so please submit your application as early as possible. If you have already completed a CERT course in your workplace, reside within Washtenaw County, and are interested in join the Washtenaw County Team, please look for instructions at our website.

CERT is a concept developed in 1985 by the Los Angeles Fire Department. They recognized that citizens would very likely be on their own during the first few hours after a catastrophic disaster. The LAFD created CERT to help provide vital services in the absence of emergency responders. Today, more than 38 states and several foreign countries have instituted the CERT program in their local communities. The events of September 11, 2001 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. Classes are taught by emergency responders, including law enforcement, firefighters and emergency medical personnel from Washtenaw County. The course includes the following lessons:

Emergency Medical Response

Medical first response including certification in first aid, C.P.R. and use of the automated external defibrillator (AED).

Disaster Preparedness

Introduction to disasters specific to Washtenaw County, and the impact of disaster on infrastructure.

Disaster Medical Operations

Treatment strategies for life threatening conditions and principles of triage. Patient assessment and treatment for various injuries.

Search & Rescue Operations

Techniques for sizing up and searching, lifting, cribbing and removing victims; rescuer safety.

Disaster Psychology & Team Organization

The post-disaster emotional environment will be discussed. CERT organization, decision making and documentation.

Terrorism

A brief overview of terrorism and the weapons they use. Identifying targets in Washtenaw County and discussion of time / distance/shielding.

Final Exercise

Disaster simulation realistic to Washtenaw County.

For more information, contact:

The Ann Arbor Police Department

At 734-794-6933

or visit www.a2gov.org

<http://www.a2gov.org/government/safety/services/Police/Pages/PoliceHomePage.aspx>