



Purpose

- ◆ Support and direct statewide training and education in disaster planning and preparedness
- ◆ Increase community awareness of disaster preparedness
- ◆ Provide any assistance to any government agency that requires volunteer services in any capacity
- ◆ Contact with other Emergency Management related organizations
- ◆ Coordination of annual CERT Conference

Vision

- ◆ Coordinate the statewide Conference at a convenient location within the state (to accommodate all CERT teams).
 - ◆ Sponsor two smaller events in the north and the south parts of the state, respectively. All events will rotate from east to west to provide coverage to not only the east and west coasts but also the Panhandle as well as the Keys. Other events may be added later as interest demands and programs continue to grow.
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Activities

Evenly divided among training in disaster planning and preparedness, training exercises, and promoting contact with other Emergency Management organizations.

Training

CERT training is designed to prepare citizens to help themselves, their families, and their neighbors following a catastrophic disaster when emergency responders are overwhelmed. Training consists of nine 4-hour sessions including Disaster Preparation and Incident Command, Disaster Fire Suppression and Haz-Mat, Disaster Medical Operations (two courses culminating in a Hands-On session consisting of seven Skills Stations), Light Search and Rescue, Terrorism Issues and Psychological Issues.

“The greatest good...”

With training, practice and working together as a team, CERT members will be able to do “the greatest good for the greatest number” after a disaster, while protecting themselves from becoming victims. Upon completion of CERT training, teams are encouraged to continue training, drilling and developing neighborhood networks of resources so their teams may build, grow and flourish within the community. CERTs are often utilized by local emergency agencies for a variety of functions, such as fire-fighter rehab teams, special needs neighborhood canvassing, working in drills for and with emergency responders, and all kinds of disaster mitigation tasks.



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