

CERT is about readiness, people helping people, rescuer safety, and doing the greatest good for the greatest number.



BE PREPARED TO RESPOND TO AND COPE WITH THE AFTERMATH OF A DISASTER

- Learn what to expect following a major disaster in terms of immediate services
- Discuss the responsibility for mitigation and preparedness
- Organize teams to offer immediate help to victims until fire and medical services arrive

REGISTRATION AND COST

The 27-hour CERT program lasts nine weeks (three hours a night, one night per week). The costs is \$50, which includes all required safety gear and training materials. There is a requirement to attend all sessions and establish a home emergency preparedness kit.



Emergency Management

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Web Site:

<http://www.whatcomcounty.us/dem/educate/cert/cert.jsp>



INFORMATION AND REGISTRATION

For more information or to request an application for training, contact the CERT Coordinator at Whatcom County Emergency Management at the address above or visit the website.

Whatcom County



A positive and realistic approach to emergency and/or disaster situations in which citizens will be on their own initially and their actions can make a difference.



DISASTER PREPAREDNESS TRAINING FOR CITIZENS



Following a major disaster, first responders who provide fire and medical services may not be able to meet the heavy demand for these services. People will have to rely on each other for help in order to meet their immediate life saving and life sustaining needs. In CERT training you will learn to:

1. Prepare yourself and your family to be self-sufficient for a minimum of three days to two weeks;
2. Organize teams and provide direction for spontaneous volunteers to effectively respond to a disaster;
3. Manage utilities, put out small fires, and provide basic medical aid.
4. **Learn skills to take care of yourself, your family, your neighbors, your co-workers and your community.**

COURSE OVERVIEW

Session I/II – Disaster Preparedness:

Local hazards and threats, including Terrorism and Weapons of Mass Destruction (WMD), actions to take before, during and after a disaster and the CERT concept.

Session III – Disaster Fire Safety:

Safe use of fire extinguishers, sizing up a situation, controlling utilities and extinguishing live fire.

Sessions IV/V – Disaster Medical:

Patient evaluation, treating airway obstructions, bleeding and shock, establishing a medical treatment area and disaster first-aid.

Session VI – Light Search and

Rescue: Building search and rescue planning, size-up, techniques and rescuer safety.

Session VII – Disaster Psychology and Team Organization:

Signs and symptoms experienced by disaster victims and workers, CERT organization, management principles; and documentation.

Session VIII/IX– Disaster Simulation

Exercises: Tabletop and hands-on exercises to practice skills learned during the class.

Whatcom County Sheriff's Office
Division of Emergency
Management is proud to deliver
these classes to the citizens of
Whatcom County.



FEDERAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY (FEMA) TRAINING FOR INSTRUCTORS

The Department of Homeland Security/ FEMA supports the CERT program by conducting training courses for members of the fire, medical, and emergency management community.

After training is completed, these professionals can be assigned to teach the CERT program to local citizens.

