



Why neighborhoods need CERT

Barristers Meeting 3/23/16

Why neighborhoods need several people trained

- Fairfax police and fire say in a serious or widespread incident, it may take up to 3 days to get to a single neighborhood
- Like insurance, you need it if the chances are low of a serious incident, but the consequences are strong
- Any one type of incident has low probability, but having any kind is more likely- tornado, blizzard, hurricane, derecho, power outage affecting necessary medical equipment, chemical spill, lost child or adult
 - Feb 2016 blizzard- ambulance stuck for 1 hr at Garrett and Gerken.
 - Feb 5, 2016: Accident with fuel spill
LOCATION: Georgetown Pike/River Bend Rd, Great Falls
- CERT volunteers can also help when another community is in need.



What do you learn- basic and advanced classes

- Basic CERT Class

- How to help yourself, neighbors, and community when fire, rescue, and police cannot respond *
- Some advanced First aid
- Organizing activities – medical, search and rescue, logistics, accountability*
- How to identify risks and victim's condition *
- Important information to turn over to fire, ambulance, police *
- National Safety Council CPR and AED *
- How to lift a very heavy object off a child or adult *
- How to put out small fires, and decide when not to try *



- Advanced classes available

- Map reading
- Community search techniques
- Active shooter incidents- tactics the public can use to reduce risk and improve chances of survival
- Radio operations



CERT Volunteers have chances for other helping with other community service

- World police and fire games
- Fairfax County police training to avoid officer involved shootings
- Urban search and rescue
- Radio operations
- Role players during a drill

Typical CERT Training

- Evening classes- 7, 3 ½ hours each, plus a final exercise
 - Classes usually at Fire and Rescue Academy near Costco Fairfax
- Classes are usually half women and half men
- This training does not require any special physical strength or agility. Some trainees are handicapped.
- Free back pack with gear, e.g
Non-sparking wrench to turn off gas
in an emergency



If you are interested in signing up for CERT training, visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/fr/cert/

Or contact the Fire and Rescue Department Volunteer Liaison's office at 703-246-4683

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