

Community Emergency Response Team



Introduction
Lamorinda

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Contra Costa CERT Coalition

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Welcome

Welcome to Lamorinda CERT
basic training
We are not here to teach
about disasters but about how
to be **ready** for disasters and
how to **respond** following one



-  *Get involved during class and hands-on drills*
-  There are no tests
-  Do not do anything you are not comfortable doing
-  Share what you have learned with family, friends and neighbors
-  You must attend all classes to graduate


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Etiquette


 Please arrive 15 minutes early to sign in


 Class starts promptly at 1830 (6:30 p.m.)

 The Final Exercise will start at 1800 (6:00 p.m.)

 Sign class roster each session

 Pick up handouts at the registration desk

 Please do not wear strong fragrances to class

 Questions will be answered or put into a ‘parking lot’ for later discussion

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Introductions

 Who we are:

➤ Team members

▪ Program Manager – Duncan Seibert

▪ Registrar – Julie Sparks

▪ PIO – Ginny Merrifield

▪ Instructors

▪ Mentors

 Who are you?

➤ Please tell us a little about yourself:

▪ Name, including what you like to be called

▪ Where you live - city and neighborhood

▪ What you do – occupation

▪ What you bring to a preparedness team







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Community Emergency Response Team


-  Personal safety is ALWAYS the number one priority
-  Show up prepared
 - Wear appropriate clothing and footwear, have WATER
 - Wear PPE – your personal protective equipment ...gloves, helmet, goggles, mask, boots, etc.
 - Have at least one communications device: cell, radio, etc.
-  Work as a team
-  Size-up - maintain situational awareness
-  The CERT goal is to do the
Greatest Good for the Greatest Number
-  *Hope for the best but plan for the worst!*




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Setting the Stage

-  CERTs are able to:
 - Assist emergency services personnel when requested in accordance with standard operating procedures (SOPs) developed by the sponsoring agency and by area of training
 - Assume some of the same functions as emergency services personnel following a disaster
 - Prepare families and communities prior to emergencies and assist neighbors during an emergency when first responders are not immediately available



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Basic CERT Course Overview

The Lamorinda CERT Basic class series presents 10 units, 8 of which are localized versions of FEMA modules. Communications and Pets are locally produced modules.

- Introduction
- Preparedness
- CERT Organization
- Radio Communications
- Utilities, Hazardous Materials & Fire Safety
- Disaster Medical Operations Part I, Triage
- Disaster Medical Operations Part II, Treatment
- Light Search and Rescue
- Disaster Psychology
- Terrorism
- Pet Preparedness
- Final Exercise



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CERT History

- Idea for CERT came from Mexico City earthquake of 1985
 - Volunteers are credited with more than 800 successful rescues. Unfortunately, more than 100 untrained volunteers died during the 15-day rescue operation
- CERT created by LAFD in 1986
- FEMA adopted and expanded this program into a national program
- All 50 states, 3 territories and many foreign countries have adopted CERT as their training standard


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Community Preparedness

 Community Preparedness is:

➤ A key priority in lessening the impact of disasters

➤ Effective when it addresses unique attributes of the community and engages the **whole community**

 It is critical that all community members take steps to prepare

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Engaging the Whole Community

 Whole Community approach to emergency preparedness seeks to engage the full capacity of the private and nonprofit sectors, including businesses, faith-based and disability organizations, and the general public, in conjunction with the participation of local, tribal, state, and Federal governmental partners

 Relationships and social connections are the foundation for a more resilient community that can bounce back after a disaster

 Community coalitions strengthen relationships and provide a framework for organizing community preparedness efforts


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Government

 Government has the responsibility to:

- Develop, test, and refine emergency plans
- Ensure emergency responders have adequate skills and resources
- Provide services to protect and assist citizens


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Emergency Operations Plan (EOP)

 All government agencies with a role in disaster response work organize and coordinate their agencies' activities before an emergency or disaster by developing an EOP

- Assigns responsibility to individuals and organizations
- Sets forth lines of authority
- Describes how people, animals, and property will be protected
- Identifies personnel, equipment, facilities, supplies, and other resources
- Describes the operation of the Emergency Operations Center (EOC)


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Emergency Operations Center



The Emergency Operations Center or EOC is the jurisdiction’s hub in times of disaster. All status reports go to the EOC and policy and response direction come from the EOC



The EOC will have an active radio communications section to communicate with all responders, including CERT members

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Community Leaders



Have a responsibility to participate in community preparedness:

➤ Participate on local collaborative planning council

➤ Identify and integrate appropriate resources into government plans

➤ Ensure facilities, staff, and customers served are prepared


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The Public




Learn about community alerts, warnings, and evacuation routes




Take training




Practice skills and personal plans




Network and help others



Provide feedback to community



Report suspicious activity



Volunteer

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Lamorinda CERT & You



Lamorinda CERT is sponsored by the Moraga-Orinda Fire District



Lamorinda CERT is guided by a Steering Committee made up of residents from each city and officials from our local fire and police departments



The majority of our instructors are volunteers supplemented by subject matter experts from our Police Departments and the Moraga-Orinda Fire District. All of our instructors have gone through a FEMA-based train-the-trainer class



All CERT-trained residents operate as individuals until they are called upon by the city during a disaster and are sworn in as a “Volunteer Disaster Service Worker”




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Liability



Cover your Equus africanus asinus

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Liability

Act within the scope of your training in a prudent and reasonable manner.
“Good Samaritan Law”
Federal Volunteer Protection Act of 1997



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Liability

California AB83 of 2010 - Torts: personal liability immunity

“This bill provides that no person who in good faith and not for compensation renders emergency medical or nonmedical care or assistance at the scene of an emergency shall be liable for civil damages resulting from any act or omission other than an act or omission constituting gross negligence or willful or wanton misconduct.”

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Classroom Materials

- Handouts will be provided in many classes
- FEMA CERT Participant’s Manual and additional materials are available under the Resources tab at: <https://lamorindacert.org>
- Any vendors, products, or websites referred to in this presentation series or by any instructors are for informational purposes only
- Lamorinda CERT does not endorse any specific brands or commercial organizations


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Perishability of Abilities

 Several of the skills that will be presented have details that are easily forgotten. This perishability of abilities means that when a disaster occurs, if you have not practiced these skills, you may not remember the life saving details

 How to maintain your skills

➤ Attend Monthly Meetings

➤ Attend exercises regularly

➤ Take additional training

➤ Audit basic classes. You are always welcome to come back and sit in on these basic CERT classes

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CERT in the Community

 **CERT** members provide services to the community throughout the year

 During times of emergency, we provide a **Volunteer Resource Center** to process volunteers who wish to work in relief efforts locally

 Each fall we provide traffic control and parking direction for the Lafayette Art & Wine Festival

 In October we provide traffic control and communications for the Lafayette Reservoir Run

 Several times throughout the year we staff informational tables at community events

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Levels of CERT Training

There are three levels of training in Lamorinda CERT

 Level I is a Basic Training level. Level I members are trained to respond for their families and neighborhoods

 Level II includes Red Cross and FEMA training. Level II members are available for deployment throughout the local area

 Level III is for medically trained members. This level is available for deployment through Mutual Aid throughout the state

In addition, there are specialty roles including HAM radio, Traffic Control, Volunteer Resource Center, Point of Distribution and others

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Additional Training

Other training available for those interested:

 **Monthly Meetings** – *Second Monday of each month*

 Annual Exhibition at the Lamorinda Safety Fair

 Advanced Specialty training including

- HAM Radio
- Stop the Bleed
- CCCART – Contra Costa County Animal Response Team

 Advanced first aid, CPR, AED training

 Red Cross Shelter management operations

 Train the Trainer (T3) Instructor Training Classes


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Lamorinda CERT Foundation




Lamorinda CERT does not receive any funds from the State or Federal governments




Our sponsor, Moraga-Orinda Fire District has a very limited budget for CERT



Lamorinda CERT Foundation, a 501(c)(3) tax-exempt corporation sells items and receives donations to fund the operations of Lamorinda CERT



The Lafayette Art & Wine Festival sends a donation in proportion to the number of CERT volunteers who help during this event



Go to <http://lamorindacert.org/events/> to sign up to help

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Questions ?



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Takeaways

Volunteers don't get paid,
not because they're
worthless,
but because they're
priceless.

Sherry Anderson


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