Community Emergency Response Team



Public Safety, Traffic Control, & 2026 Lafayette Art & Wine

Community Emergency Response Team

- Thank you for you support!
- Your skills are critical for:
  - Disaster support
  - Assisting with events like Art & Wine

- Agenda Today
  - Personal Safety
  - Traffic Management and Control
  - Art & Wine Specifics

Personal Safety – Protective Equipment

- Always wear a CERT vest
- Wear a CERT ballcap
- Have a whistle
- Bring your radio and keep it on and locked on channel









Working with People

- Your safety is always first – If it becomes unsafe leave and radio for support
- Human Instinct
  - People are pack animals – they want to belong, not be singled out. Use this to your advantage
- Active listening
  - Listen, understand, repeat back, build rapport
  - Empathy & respect
- Influence, or "Verbal Judo"
  - Calm voice, command presence, stick to the objective
- Deflect and Guide
  - Bad: "I won't let you through"



  - Good: "The festival has this closed for now. Do you want to wait or turn around?"
    - Deflects to the festival,
    - Involves the person, and
    - Guides them choose one of two acceptable outcomes



Working Near Vehicles

Three Degrees of Safety



- **You:** Make yourselves visible
  - PPE, vests, flashlights, whistles
- **Driver:** make eye contact with them
  - Still assume they don't see you
- **Vehicle:** Assume they are going to move
  - Keep your distance → increases your time to react
  - Never stand in line with the direction the wheels will travel – forwards or backwards
    - "I went for the brake and hit the gas…"
    - "I thought I was in drive, not reverse…"
  - Never walk between two vehicles



Controlling Traffic

- **Liability**
  - Controlling traffic implies liability
  - Limit traffic control to what is needed
    - Let drivers sort the rest out
    - Don't be too eager



- **Multiple people directing traffic** at one intersection
  - One person leads, others follow
  - Two people may give conflicting directions → Crunch!
- **Backing up vehicles**
  - Our vehicles – always use a spotter who can easily be seen by the driver
    - Be sure driver can see your hand motions in their mirrors
  - Other vehicles – don't be a spotter if it is not needed → liability

Perspectives

"There is nothing that shows the skill, finesse, and understanding of human nature like standing in the middle of the road conducting lanes of traffic like a symphony orchestra."



Dr. Joel F. Shults, Chief,
Adams State College
Police Department

Traffic and Management Control



Traffic and Management Control

A CERT member may be called upon to control or manage traffic when no other public safety agency is available

Staying alert to your surroundings is the key to staying alive…



Hands, Tools, and Gear

In a traffic control situation, you may use:





- hand signals,
- whistles,
- voice commands,
- flashlights, flares,
- cones, barricades or signs,
- or even a vehicle as safety buffer.



Art of the hand signal



Make eye contact with the driver

Give only one direction at a time.

Hand Signals

Signal	General Considerations
STOP 	• Point - arm and fingers extended - look straight at driver • Hold until driver sees signal • Raise pointing hand so palm is toward driver • Hold this position until driver stops **Stopping traffic from two directions** • Stop traffic coming from one direction first • Hold hand in stop position, turn to the other side - repeat • Don't lower either arm until cars are halted

Hand Signals

Signal	General Considerations
START	• Place yourself so one side is towards traffic to be started: • Point with arm and finger toward first car to be started • Hold position until you get driver's attention • With palm up, swing hand up and over chin, bending arm at elbow. • After traffic has started from one side, drop that arm and start traffic from other side in the same manner
KEEP MOVING	• Continue to use the same signals for the slow and timid

Hand Signals

Signal	General Considerations
RIGHT TURN 	• If car approaches from right, point toward driver with right arm • If car approaches from left, point with left arm • Give driver time to see your gesture, then swing arm to point in direction the vehicle is to proceed • Keep pointing in that direction until driver turns

Hand Signals

Signal	General Considerations
LEFT TURN 	**Halt traffic in the lanes through which car is to cross** • If car approaches from the left: Give stop signal with right arm to stop traffic in lane through which car is to cross Hold stop signal with right arm and give turning gesture with left arm. • If car approaches from the right: Turn around to face in direction the car is to go Halt traffic with right arm and give turning gesture with left arm

Hand Signals

Signal	General Considerations
LEFT TURN Single Lanes 	• On a street with only one lane in each direction: One driver, turning left, can delay many cars behind unless the driver's movement is handled properly While driver is waiting, signal driver to move into intersection so cars behind can continue Point finger at driver, motion to move forward and point to place where driver is to stop Permit the left turn when there is a natural break in opposing traffic, or stop opposing traffic and signal for the left turn

Voice Commands

- Voice is seldom heard in traffic
- Hand gestures and the whistle are most efficient
- Shouted orders may antagonize a driver
- When a driver or pedestrian does not understand, you should move closer to the person, and politely explain the command



The Whistle

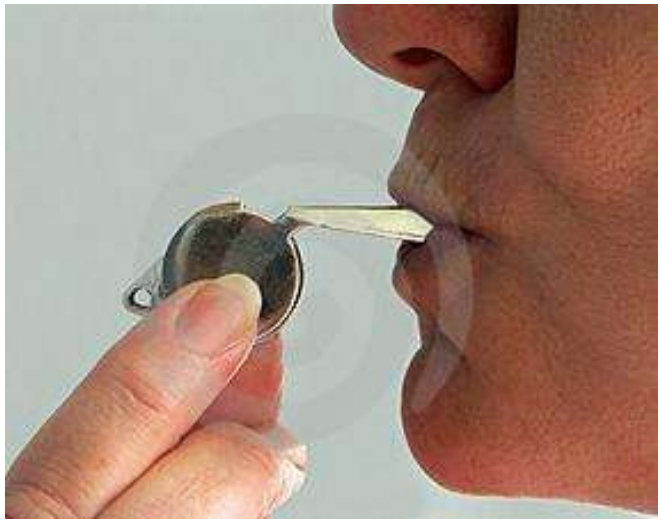
- Who keeps a whistle in their CERT gear?



- *Who needs a whistle for today's exercise?*

Whistle use defined:

- One long blast with *"stop"* hand signal
- Two short blasts with the *"start"* hand signal
- Several short blasts to get the *"attention"* of a driver
- A short, intermittent blast to "keep the traffic moving"



- Pick your favorite flavor!







Lafayette Art & Wine Festival 2026

- Thank you for volunteering to help at this year's event.
- The CERT booth: same location as last year, 3531 Mt Diablo Blvd.
  - Between Moraga Rd & Lafayette Circle
- All CERT volunteers check in at the CERT booth at least 10 minutes before their shift
  - Get radios (if you didn't bring yours) and last-minute instructions.
    - Radio channel MURS88 on LARIG Channel 077
- Wear your CERT vest and ballcap. We have extra ballcaps
- First shift: pickup a stool and Stop paddle
- Stools are for your comfort if your station is slow. Be on your feet when any traffic is near.
- After your shift, stop by the CERT booth to pick up your T-Shirt.
- Last shift: return the stool and paddle.

- **Festival Hours are: Saturday, 10:00 am until 7:00 pm. Sunday, 10:00 am until 6:00 pm.**

NO ALCHOL MAY LEAVE THE FESTIVAL

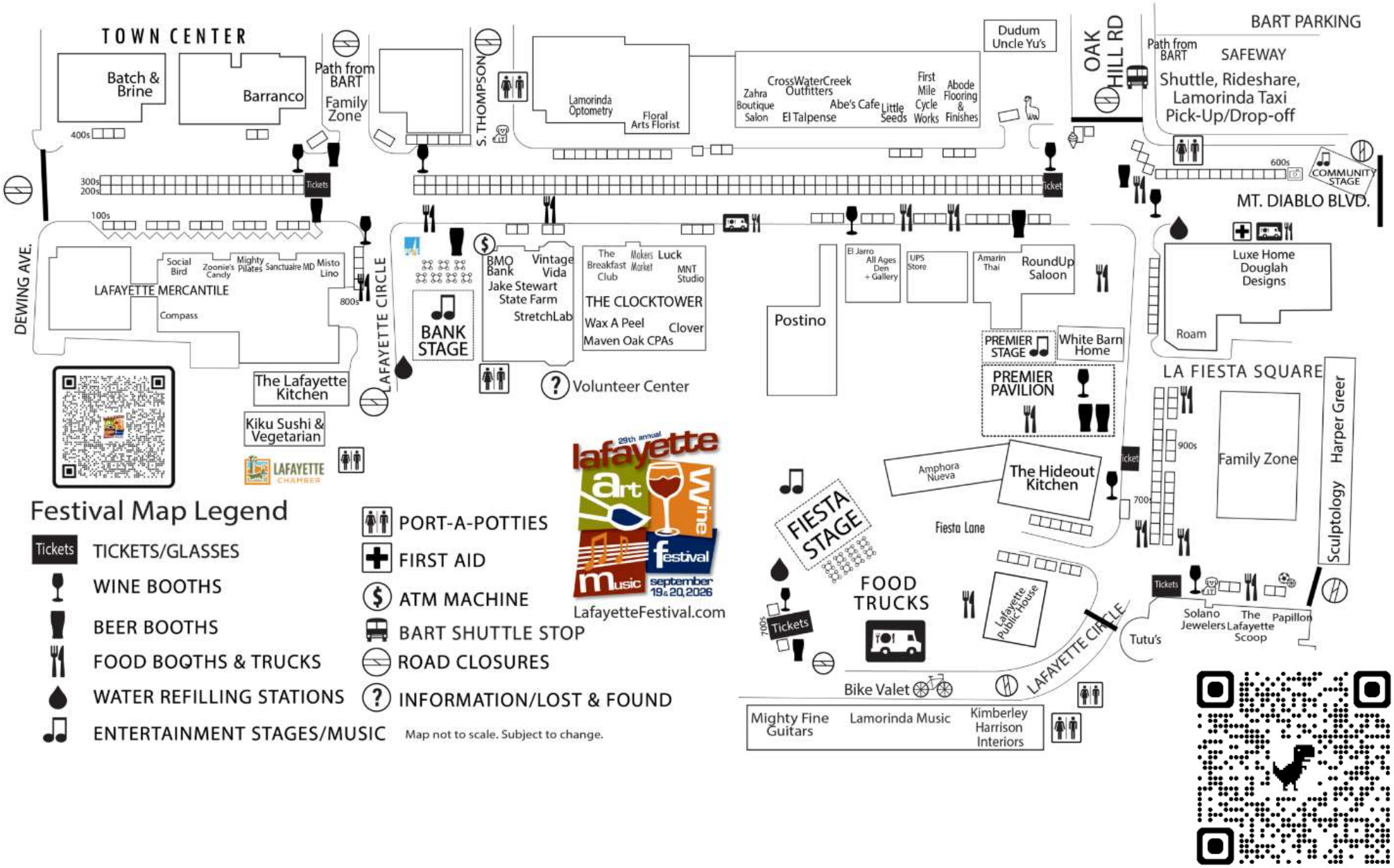
NO EXCEPTIONS!

Anyone crossing the barricades who has alcohol MUST return to the festival footprint to finish their drink or pour it out.

- Help us control alcohol
- Remind people they cannot leave with alcohol
  - Most people don’t realize leaving is breaking the law

- Use a Customer Service Approach
  - “I can help you with that”
- Know the map
  - Where are the key points of interest?

Art & Wine 2026



Pop Quiz - Art & Wine 2026

- Where are the bathrooms?
- Is there an ATM?
- Where is the premier stage?