

# About CERT

The Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) is an official training program of FEMA that **prepares you to help yourself, your family, and your neighbors in the event of a disaster.** During an incident, emergency service personnel may be overwhelmed and not be able to reach everyone right away. By getting trained in CERT, you will have the skills to help *save lives, protect property, and prevent yourself from becoming a victim.* As a member of a CERT team, you can respond to disasters, participate in drills and exercises, and take additional training. CERT teams are a known and trusted resource to professional emergency responders and the community. In addition to promoting a partnership between emergency responders and the people they serve, **CERT** promotes communication and partnership among community members.

**CERT is about readiness, people helping people, safety, and doing the greatest good.**



# Goals of CERT

Provide residents with **free** training and **free** equipment so they can respond effectively to potential threats to their home, neighborhood, church, school, workplace — their community.

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Provide critical support to the community in an emergency or disaster situation.

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Promote a partnering between Okaloosa County Emergency Management and local professional emergency responders and the people they serve. Assist emergency responders when needed.

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Assist with non-emergency projects that improve the safety of the community.

**Help Protect *Your* Community.**

# WHO should volunteer for CERT?

- **People interested in taking an *active* role in home town preparedness**
- **Neighborhood Watch groups**
- **Community Leaders**
- **Business Managers and Employees**
- **Communities of Faith**
- **Scouting and Youth Organizations**
- **Students, Teachers, and Administrators**
- **Parents and Teens**
- **Members of Clubs and Civic Organizations**

**Get Involved Today!**