

## Community Emergency Response Team (CERT)

After a disaster, citizens may be on their own for up to 72 hours until the first responders reach them. The Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) program teaches citizens the skills they need to help themselves, family members, and neighbors until help arrives. Additional non-disaster training and opportunities are available after completing the CERT training program.

Some specially trained CERT members are skilled medical services personnel and serve on the Fire Rehabilitation Team. This team receives very specialized training so they can respond to structure fires and extended incidents. They also staff a rehab unit to help firefighters who are in need of rest and hydration. On occasions, they have responded to assist the City's public works crew during extreme weather conditions.

CERT members also assist with community events, disaster drills, amateur radio communications, and disaster response to other communities.