What is CERT Training?

Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) is about people helping people, rescuer safety, and doing the greatest good for the greatest number.

CERT is a positive and realistic approach to emergency and disaster situations where citizens will be initially on their own and their actions can make a difference.

The 20 hour CERT course includes:

- ★ Disaster Preparedness
- ★ Fire Suppression
- ★ Team Organization
- ★ Terrorism Organization
- ★ Terrorism Module
- ★ Light Urban Search and Rescue
- ★ Medical Principles and Treatment
- ★ Disaster Psychology

For Information visit:

http://www.state.il.us/iema/training/courses/CERT_TTT/default.asp

Office of Homeland Security
Illinois Terrorism Task Force

For a list of local councils please visit:

www.ready.illinois.gov/citizencorps

or

www.citizencorps.gov

or

Contact the Illinois Citizen Corps Council at:

217-558-1334

IEMA

Printed by the Authority of the State of Illinois
IISG08-536 - 4/10

State of Illinois
Illinois Emergency Management Agency

ILLINOIS citizen corps

For Safer
Stronger
Better Prepared
Illinois Communities

Prepare

Train

Volunteer

What is a Citizen Corps Council?

Local Citizen Corps Councils build on community strengths to develop and implement a local strategy to have every Illinoisian participate through personal preparedness, training, and volunteer service.

The goal is to prepare for and respond to emergencies by bringing together local leaders, citizen volunteers and the network of first responder organizations.

Illinois' Citizen Corps initiative is administered by the Illinois Emergency Management Agency (IEMA) in partnership with the Illinois Terrorism Task Force (ITTF).

The state level Citizen Corps Council is an eighteen-member Committee of the Illinois Terrorism Task Force (ITTF) that coordinates funding and provides policy decisions concerning the Citizen Corps program.

Grant funding is available for registered Citizen Corps Councils in Illinois. For funding information, contact IEMA.

How is a Council Formed?

Councils are sponsored or endorsed by an elected local government official, city or county adminstrator. If your community does not yet have a Citizen Corps Council, please contact your mayor's office or other local government leaders to ask about how you can hlep. Councils are made up of:

- ★ Emergency Management
- ★ Homeland Security
- ★ Law Enforcement
- ★ Fire Service
- ★ Medical Services/Public Health
- ★ Elected Officials
- ★ The Private Sector (especially privately owned critical infrastructure)
- ★ Private Non-Profits
- ★ Non-Governmental organizations (inlcuding faith-based and community-based organizations)
- ★ Advocacy Groups for Special Needs Populations

You may register your council online at:

www.citizencorps.gov

What are the Citizen Corps Programs?

- ★ Neighborhood Watch
- ★ Medical Reserve Corps
- ★ Volunteers in Police Service(VIPS)
- ★ Fire Corps
- ★ Community Emergency Response Teams (CERT)

What are the benefits of Having a Council in Your Community?

- ★ Greater sense of responsibility, security, and personal control.
- ★ Builds community pride, unity, and patriotism.
- ★ Reduces burden on first responder services by promoting risk reduction, mitigation and preparedness measures.
- ★ Prepares us all for helping others in a crisis.

What are the Responsibilities of a Citizen Corps Council?

- ★ Develop action plans to involve the whole community.
- ★ Focus on public education, training, and volunteer opportunities for community and family safety.
- ★ Promote and oversee Citizen Corps programs.
- ★ Organize special projects/community events.
- ★ Capture smart practices and report accomplishments.

There are no limits to how you can prepare and train for emergencies and help your community be safer.