

# WOULD YOU KNOW HOW TO HELP YOUR FAMILY OR YOUR NEIGHBORS IF A LARGE-SCALE DISASTER OR EMERGENCY STRUCK?

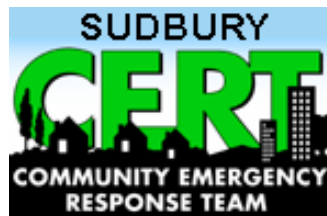
Community Emergency Response Teams, or CERT, is a concept developed by the Los Angeles Fire Department. They recognized that citizens would very likely be on their own during the early stages of a major disaster. The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) has developed CERT into a nationwide effort as a part of the President's Citizen Corps program. CERT provides basic training in disaster survival and rescue skills. This improves the ability of citizens to survive until emergency personnel can arrive.

The training is designed for citizens with little or no training in the areas listed below, but those with some skills in these areas are also welcome to attend the training and participate in a CERT team. Homeowners or neighborhood groups, PTAs, service and social clubs, churches, businesses, or a group of individuals from a neighborhood are ideal groups to form CERT teams.

Basic skills are taught in the areas of:

Disaster Preparedness	Fire Safety
Disaster Medical Operations I & II	Terrorism Preparedness and Crime Prevention
Disaster Psychology	Light Search and Rescue
Special Populations and Animals in Disaster	CERT Volunteerism

All students participate in a final exercise at the end of the course.



**CONTACTS:**

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