

Pittsylvania County Department of Emergency Management



CERT Newsletter



News

June 4, 2004

Training

CERT Meeting April 22, 2004

On Thursday evening our 2nd quarterly CERT meeting was held at the Educational Cultural Center, in Chatham. We had approximately 17 members to attend our meeting. The meeting was conducted with Jim Davis presiding as the County's CERT Coordinator. .

Mr. Davis discussed the upcoming CERT graduation that was scheduled for April 24, 2004 at Chatham Middle School. Volunteers were needed for disaster role-playing as medical victims. 72 participants are slated for graduation. 6 of those are from the City of Danville and 2 Halifax County Animal Control Officers. Thereby bringing our CERT total membership to 133. This class was unique that we have residents from Pittsylvania County and the City of Danville who are DEAF. Pittsylvania County, Danville Community College, and the City of Danville together worked to bring these individuals into the CERT training program. We are extremely pleased to have them trained and ready to assist themselves, their families, and their community when disaster strikes.

As a reminder our Team Leaders are:

Dan River – Russell Taylor
 Tunstall – Larry Scott
 Chatham – Jerry Shedd
 Gretna – Clay Jackson

ID CARDS

Digital photos are being taken of CERT members for Identification Cards. If you have not had your photo taken, please contact Mr. Davis @ 432-7920.

TRAINING

Training class was conducted for those who could attend on April 17 at the Blairs Volunteer Fire Dept for CPR & First Aid taught by the Red Cross.

American Red Cross –
 Disaster & Mass Care

American Red Cross –
 Shelter Operations and Simulation

If you have not signed up for these two classes, it will be required before you can assist in a live shelter operation in the County. It is the County's intent to utilize CERT members at the Shelters. Specifically, Gretna team to work the Gretna Shelter as would be each team to work their respective shelters. The team that is activated to work at the shelter would be the lead team. In other words, if Dan River CERT Team came to Gretna, they would be assisting the Gretna CERT Team. Additionally, CERT members would be covered with liability insurance from American Red Cross, because you would be volunteering to help them.

CPR & First Aid

At the present time, we will be scheduling another class for CPR & First Aid.

This will be discussed with the Red Cross Coordinator.

On May 15, 2004 we had CERT members at the 4 Food Lions located in Pittsylvania County and at the Chatham Festival handing out brochures for Hurricane Preparedness. Governor Warner issued a certificate of recognition that May 16-22 2004 was Hurricane Preparedness Week in Virginia. I would like to thank each of you that helped on that day. We will do this again later this summer.

Next Meeting Date

July 22, 2004 07:00 PM
Educational Cultural Center, Chatham

A message from the CERT Coordinator

The CERT program has become one of the fastest growing volunteer training programs in Pittsylvania County. This Spirit of Volunteerism is what makes our country so great. We have seen our program exceed 130 participants to date. Another grant has been applied for in hopes to continue this training program for at least 2 more years.

This last graduating class was successful and exciting as before. We utilized victims with simulated injuries. Makeup, visual wounds, and wonderful victims made the mock disaster great. If you have not visited the web site please do so and look at the photos that were taken.

I am looking forward to continuing your disaster training. Pittsylvania County is fortunate to have citizens such as yourself to volunteer and train together to make a difference in not just your family but within your community.

I encourage each of you to contact your nearest fire department or rescue squad and request information from them concerning how to join.

Again thank you for making this a wonderful program and together "Let's Roll!"

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