

What is CERT?

The Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) is a concept developed in 1985 by the Los Angeles Fire Department. They recognized that citizens would very likely be on their own during the early stages of a catastrophic disaster. The events of September 11, 2001, will never be forgotten. Also not forgotten is how the spirit of America was awakened that day and citizens came forth to volunteer their services. Hurricane Katrina further taught us that communities must learn how to stand on their own and not rely only on federal or state help during beginning phases of a major emergency. The December 2008 ice storm and October 2011 storms that affected many Massachusetts communities are other examples of ways to help, as the many shelters needed trained staffing personnel.

Emergency Preparedness starts at the personal and community level. Sudbury established its CERT organization under the umbrella of the Sudbury Local Emergency Planning Committee, and it reports to Emergency Management Director, Fire Chief William Miles. Broadly stated, its mission is to educate the community on emergency preparedness and, upon the direction of the Emergency Management Director, deploy trained teams of volunteers to assist first responders during a major emergency.

How Can You Join?

To become a CERT member, you must be at least 18 years of age. If you'd like to volunteer your services and become trained to prepare yourself and your family, and help your neighbors and community during natural or man-made disasters,

BECOME A CERT MEMBER

For additional information about Sudbury CERT, and for downloadable documents (plus a CERT Volunteer Application), please visit our Website:
<http://cert.sudbury.ma.us>
or email cert@sudbury.ma.us.

Mailing address:

CERT
Att: Fire Chief
Sudbury Fire Dept. Headquarters
77 Hudson Road
Sudbury, MA 01776
Ph: 978-443-2239
Email: fire@sudbury.ma.us

Sudbury cable television has filmed some Emergency Preparedness presentations. Check listing for dates and times.

How Can You Help?

Businesses or organizations can help Sudbury CERT fulfill its mission for promoting community emergency preparedness and enable deployable volunteer CERT teams in a major emergency by financial, in-kind, and/or organizational support.

Financial Support

Your gift to the Sudbury CERT will be used for the following purposes:

- Community preparedness training activities
- Training CERT volunteers
- Purchasing equipment and supplies to support CERT goals

Tax-deductible gift checks are made out to the *Town of Sudbury*, referencing the *CERT Gift Account*.

In-Kind Contributions

A business or organization may have services and/or products that can help with the operations and activities of the Sudbury CERT.

Examples include shelter supplies (cots, blankets, water, long-term-storage foods, paper goods & disposable tableware, baby supplies, first-aid supplies, toys/games), communication equipment (see Fire Chief), office supplies/copying, tools, batteries, computers, flashlights, hard hats, etc. The retail value of such items will be recognized by the Town of Sudbury as a tax-deductible gift.

CERT Training

Volunteers from all walks of life can become fully certified CERT members through an official 20-hour training course. Certified and non-certified members receive other ongoing training and can help in many ways in CERT activities and community preparedness events. Full Certification classes are taught by firefighters, EMTs, and law-enforcement personnel. The course is being revised but may include the following:

Session 1: Introduction to Disaster

Introduction to disasters specific to the area, and impact of disaster on infrastructure.

Session 2: Disaster Fire Suppression

Identifying and reducing potential fire hazards, and basic fire suppression.

Session 3: Disaster Medical Operations Part 1

Treatment strategies for life-threatening conditions, and principles of triage.

Session 4: Disaster Medical Operations Part 2

Head-to-toe patient assessment and treatment for various injuries.

Session 5: Light Search & Rescue Operations

Techniques for sizing up and searching for and removing victims; rescue safety.

Session 6: Disaster Psychology & Team Organization

The post-disaster emotional environment is discussed: CERT organization, decision making, and documentation.

Session 7: Terrorism

A brief overview of terrorism weapons, identifying targets, and discussion of time/distance/shielding.

Session 8: Final Exercise

Disaster Simulation realistic to our community.

Sudbury CERT Mission Statement

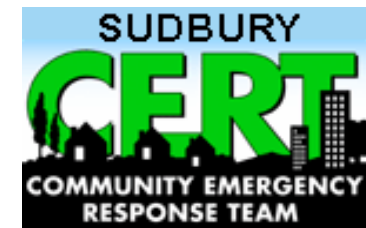
The Sudbury Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) volunteer program educates and trains citizens to be better prepared to respond to emergency situations in the community and at home. When emergencies happen, trained CERT members can be deployed at the direction of the Emergency Management Director to provide critical support to first responders, provide assistance to victims, and organize spontaneous volunteers at a disaster site. CERT members can also help with non-emergency projects that help improve the safety of the community.

PARTNERING

The Sudbury CERT seeks to partner with Sudbury businesses, churches, and organizations, with the goal of spreading awareness of emergency preparedness in our community.



CITIZEN CORPS



*Sudbury
CERT*

People Helping People

