



## About Us...

Welcome to the CERT Association of Illinois' second Newsletter. CERT Association of Illinois is a group formed to unite the sharing of information across CERT groups and interested community members located in Illinois. Although established for Community Emergency Response Teams (CERT) and Emergency Management Agency (EMA) teams located throughout Illinois, CERT teams from other regions and community members with an interest in emergency preparedness are welcome to join us. We hope to share team activities, training events, emergency preparedness tips, and other information that will be useful to similar groups and interested community or family members. If interested contact Dan Martin, 815-462-6493, [dmartin@newlenox.net](mailto:dmartin@newlenox.net)

## In This Issue...

### Membership



***Welcome New Members!!***

***Current Members***

### Training



***Past Training  
Future Training***

### Events



***Past Events  
Future Events***

### Regional News

***North  
Central  
South***

### CERT Organization



**Contact Us**



**Thank You  
to our  
Veterans!**

**November 11,  
2019**



- **Readiness** • **Member Safety** • **People Helping People**
- **Doing the greatest good for the greatest number of people**



## A Little CERT History...

### Community Emergency Response Team

The CERT concept was developed and implemented by the **Los Angeles City Fire Department** in 1985. The Whittier Narrows earthquake in 1987 underscored the area-wide threat of a major disaster in California. Further, it confirmed the need for training civilians to meet their immediate needs.

There are now CERT programs in all 50 states, including many tribal nations and U.S. territories; each unique to its community but all essential to building a Culture of Preparedness.



#### Teen CERT

For local CERT program managers and others who want to establish and maintain CERT training for teens.

#### Campus CERT

Campus CERT programs are designed to operate on any type of college or university campus. A college or university campus often functions as a “city within a city,” and often has its own emergency management capabilities.

#### Workplace CERT

Workplace CERT programs are designed to operate in any type of workplace environment. A Workplace CERT program can support and enhance existing capabilities, and CERT volunteers can participate in efforts to increase the preparedness and resilience of the workplace and community.

For more information link to <https://www.ready.gov/cert>

- **Readiness** • **Member Safety** • **People Helping People**
- **Doing the greatest good for the greatest number of people**



## Membership

### Welcome New Members!!

Individuals from the following Agencies joined  
since the September Newsletter Publication:

Chicago Police Department - 12th District Community Policing Office
Collinsville
Harlem Roscoe Fire Department (Illinois Stateline CERT)
LaSalle County Emergency Management Agency
Plainfield Police Department
Sherman Emergency Management Agency
Wauconda Emergency Management Agency
Westmont Fire Department
Will County Emergency Management Agency



- Readiness • Member Safety • People Helping People
- Doing the greatest good for the greatest number of people



## Membership

### Current Members

Addison Police Department
Berwyn Fire Department
Buffalo Grove Fire Department
Chicago Police Department - 12th District Community Policing Office
City of Chicago Office of Emergency Management and Communications
Collinsville
Cumberland County Health Department
Elgin Police Department
Fremont Township
Hanover Township Emergency Services
Harlem Roscoe Fire Department (Illinois Stateline CERT)
Highland Park Police Department
Huntley Police Department
Jersey County
LaSalle County Emergency Management Agency
Libertyville Fire Department
Long Grove Fire Protection District
Madison County
Madison County Emergency Management
McDonough County ESDA
Milton Township
Monroe County Emergency Management Agency
Mount Prospect Fire Department
Mundelein Fire Department
Naperville Fire Department
North Aurora Police Department
Northbrook Fire Department
Park Ridge Police Department
Plainfield Police Department
Rock Island County
Round Lake Beach Emergency Management Agency
Serve Illinois Commission
Sherman Emergency Management Agency
South Lake County Regional CERT
Village of Alsip
Village of Monee
Village of New Lenox
Village of Oak Park
Wauconda Emergency Management Agency
West Chicago Police Department
Westmont Fire Department
Will County Emergency Management Agency

- *Readiness • Member Safety • People Helping People*
- *Doing the greatest good for the greatest number of people*



## Member Highlight

### CONGRATULATIONS!! Prairie State CERT Challenge First Place Team South Lake County Regional CERT



South Lake County Regional CERT Todd Norris, Steve Ploughe, William Powell, Bethany Geschke, Amy Venditti, Jill Lang, Sue Thoss, and Rob Lang.



- Readiness • Member Safety • People Helping People
- Doing the greatest good for the greatest number of people



## Training

### Past Trainings



**Mundelein, November 1-3, 2019**, conducted a Basic CERT class to allow citizens to learn more about preparedness for their family and to launch volunteer efforts to join the Mundelein CERT team.



- *Readiness • Member Safety • People Helping People*
- *Doing the greatest good for the greatest number of people*

## Training

### Past Trainings

**West Chicago Police Department, November 2019,** Community Volunteers participating in the CERT 9 week training course concluded with a hands-on practical exercise putting their recently learned skills to test.



**Congratulations on your completion of the course and thank you for volunteering on behalf of your community!**

- *Readiness • Member Safety • People Helping People*
- *Doing the greatest good for the greatest number of people*

## Training

### Past Trainings

**Fremont Township CERT** - Fremont Township CERT takes “*Be Prepared*” very seriously!



***“Our Team is ready for a anything including an alien visit. ”***

- Readiness • Member Safety • People Helping People
- Doing the greatest good for the greatest number of people

## Training

### Past Trainings



**Huntley CERT, October 2019, Officer Megan Racila** and her Team conducted a CERT training class this past October. They had a total of 14 complete the training and 4 have moved on to be level two members.



- *Readiness • Member Safety • People Helping People*
- *Doing the greatest good for the greatest number of people*

## Training

### Past Trainings

Illinois Stateline CERT, October 2019, Conducted the CERT Basic Training for new members.



- *Readiness • Member Safety • People Helping People*
- *Doing the greatest good for the greatest number of people*

## Training

### Past Trainings

**New Lenox, CERT BUILDING SEARCH TRAINING – OCTOBER 22, 2019,** Fifty-five members of New Lenox CERT arrived at the old Kmart, located at 1500 W. Lincoln Highway in New Lenox. The team was on hand for Building Search training, which was the topic for the team's monthly training. As this building had been vacant for over a year, it made a perfect location for this type of training.

The station rotations ended at 8:30pm at which time everyone met near the entrance for a de-briefing of the entire training. Each of the station facilitators provided a summary of the searches (strengths and areas for improvement). Special thanks to those that facilitated stations and to everyone that attended!



- *Readiness • Member Safety • People Helping People*
- *Doing the greatest good for the greatest number of people*



## Training

### Future Trainings



**Village of Alsip CERT, May 2020**, The Village of Alsip will be hosting a Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) 20-Hour Basic Course starting on Wednesday, May 13, 2020. The Course is FREE and will be held on six Wednesday evenings from 6:30 pm to 8:30 pm at the Alsip Village Hall. The class covering fire safety will be held on one Wednesday evening at Reliable Fire & Security in Alsip. The Final Exercise and Graduation will be held on Saturday, June 27, 2020, at Prairie Junior High from approximately 8:00 am to 1:00 pm.

Those interested in registering for the CERT Course should contact **Charles Geraci**, Department of Emergency Preparedness Coordinator, Village of Alsip, (708) 254-2900 or [cgeraci@villageofalsip.org](mailto:cgeraci@villageofalsip.org). Class size is limited to 30 and registration closes on April 27, 2020.

- *Readiness • Member Safety • People Helping People*
- *Doing the greatest good for the greatest number of people*

## Training

### Future Trainings - Be Prepared!!

Winter storms create a higher risk of car accidents, hypothermia, frostbite, carbon monoxide poisoning, and heart attacks from overexertion. Winter storms and blizzards can bring extreme cold, freezing rain, snow, ice, and high winds. A winter storm can:

- \*Last a few hours or several days;
- \*Knock out heat, power, and communication services; and
- \*Place older adults, young children, and sick individuals at greater risk.



Preparing for a Winter Storm

<https://www.cdc.gov/disasters/winter/index.html>

## Events

### Past Events



**Wauconda, November 2019, Search and Rescue Crews** conducted searches for a missing 17-year-old male near Island Lake, IL, early in November. Thanks to all the teams for their help in this endeavor.



### **If Someone is missing....**

The most important thing to do is notify your local law enforcement agency as soon as possible. They will begin the process of investigating the situation and will notify search and rescue teams as necessary and appropriate.

- *Readiness • Member Safety • People Helping People*
- *Doing the greatest good for the greatest number of people*



## Events

### Past Events



#### **Buffalo Grove CERT, June – September, 2019**

Buffalo Grove CERT had a busy summer!  
Here's a recap of their hard work:

- \*June 2 - Provided First Aid during the first annual Buffalo Grove Pride Parade and Uniquely You Fest.
- \*June 19 - Participated in the Village's FEMA exercise.
- \*July 14 - Participated in the First Responders Day at the Buffalo Grove Farmers' Market.
- \*July 16 - Conducted a learning session for members on the use of the BAND app, a new app that will be used for notifying members of a call out or new activities, event sign ups etc.
- \*July 27 - Staffed the Lake County CERT booth at the Lake County Fair.
- \*August 6 - Participated in the National Night Out.
- \*August 20 - Held a pre-CERT Challenge meeting.
- \*August 29 – September 2 – Staffed the First Aid booth at BG Days.
- \*September 17 – Buffalo Grove PD presented an Active Shooter class.
- \*September 21 - Participated in the CERT Challenge.
- \*October 21 – Held an ISAR Training.
- \*November 3 – Graduated a new CERT class.
- \*November 19 – Held a Narcan Training class.



## Events

### Past Events - National

San Juan Capistrano California established the Large Animals Response Team (LART) in 2008 to assist the city's **Community Emergency Response Team**. The program expanded and now has members in nearly 40 cities in Orange and Riverside counties. They're prepared to rescue horses, ponies, donkeys, pigs, goats, sheep, cattle, llamas, alpacas and large tortoises.

Volunteers are trained by the emergency services manager for San Juan Capistrano.

LART is part of Orange County's incident command system that coordinates disaster response by municipal, regional, state and federal agencies. This means the incident commander for a wildfire must put in an official request with San Juan Capistrano's administration before volunteers can pull trailers into evacuation zones.

LART activated for the Holy Fire that burned in and around Trabuco Canyon in August 2018, requiring 21,400 evacuations at its peak.



*San Juan Capistrano based team rescues horses from wildfires and other disasters.*

- **Readiness • Member Safety • People Helping People**
- **Doing the greatest good for the greatest number of people**



## Events

### Future Events



**2020 National CERT Conference**  
**Springfield, MO**

VISION FOR THE FUTURE  
**2020**  
**NATIONAL CONFERENCE**

Springfield, Missouri at the  
Oasis Hotel and Convention Center

Pre-conference training  
July 13th thru 15th, 2020

Main Conference  
July 15th thru 18th, 2020

**MERIT**

MERIT Presenting Sponsor  
<https://www.merits.com/sign-up-your-cert?>

**Register at: 2020nationalcertconference.com**  
*For room reservations, you must call the hotel directly!*  
*For Hotel Reservations call 1-888-532-4338.*

The 2020 National CERT Conference will bring together thousands of people who all have one goal: a Vision for the Future of CERT. Members from the public and private sector, as well as many trained volunteers will join together to renew the focus of CERT. This partnership reflects one of the most diverse, yet unified groups of dedicated public servants. It is vital that we continue to grow in numbers, partnerships and knowledge. The 2020 CERT Conference will offer an open environment for personal and collaborative efforts, as well as increasing knowledge in available technology and networking, all in an effort to grow our vision: a Vision for the Future.

- Readiness • Member Safety • People Helping People
- Doing the greatest good for the greatest number of people

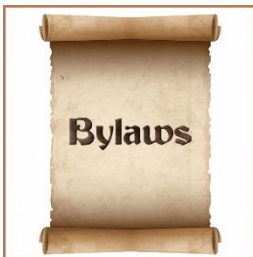


## **Regional News**

**North - No News Submissions**  
**Central - No News Submissions**  
**South - No News Submissions**

## CERT Organization

### Committees



Michelle Hanneken (Serve Illinois Commission)  
Randy James (South Lake County Regional CERT)  
Dan Martin (Village of New Lenox)  
Marc Small (Long Grove Fire Protection District)  
Latesha Tubbs (City of Chicago Office of Emergency Management  
and Communications)



Rich Frizelis (Chicago CERT)  
Chuck Geraci (Alsip CERT)  
Laura Townsend (Northbrook CERT)  
Rich Wilson (Buffalo Grove CERT)



## Contact Us



<http://certillinois.com>



<https://www.facebook.com/CERTAssociationofIllinois/>

**GET INVOLVED IN CERT.**  
[Community Emergency Response Team]

**WHAT CERT CAN DO:**

 <b>RESIDENTIAL &amp; COMMUNITY CHECKS</b> Make sure family members and neighbors are safe and well following disasters.	 <b>TRAFFIC &amp; CROWD MANAGEMENT</b> Control the flow of people during small power outages or large scale concert or sporting events.
 <b>EMERGENCY OPS. CENTER STAFFING</b> Staff emergency operations centers to help organize and complete the response effort.	 <b>PUBLIC INFORMATION</b> Inform communities how to prepare and explain resources out there to help in case of emergency.

Over 2,300 teams nationwide.  
**FIND YOURS AT FEMA.gov/CERT**

- **Readiness** • **Member Safety** • **People Helping People**
- **Doing the greatest good for the greatest number of people**