

In This Issue.

Membership



Welcome New Members!!
Current Members

Training



Past Training
Future Training

Events



Past Event
Future Events

Regional News

North
Central
South

CERT Organization



Contact Us

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- Doing the greatest good for the greatest number of people



Membership



Calling all CERT volunteers!!

The CERT Association of Illinois ranks are growing! We now have 93 members spanning 54 jurisdictions. This is fantastic.... but we want more!



Please reach out to any and all CERT agencies and have them contact us using any of the links below.

[CERT Association of Illinois \(certillinois.com\)](http://certillinois.com)

info@certillinois.com

[CERT Association of Illinois - Home | Facebook](#)

Membership

Member Highlight

Dan Martin

"Dan is an excellent leader, and his enthusiasm for emergency preparedness and helping others is infectious,"

"I have not seen another person able to inspire so many in our community to volunteer for the safety and welfare of our citizens,"

"He doesn't sleep"

"He is extremely articulate and will be a hands-on chief."

The above accolades are just a smattering of what has been declared of Dan Martin. From his time as a **Lieutenant for the Country Club Hills Police Department**, public safety, emergency preparedness, and community involvement has been Dan's ongoing focus.

Fast forward from wearing the "butter bars" of a Lieutenant to becoming the **Chief of Police of the New Lenox PD** and then as the **Public Safety Division Chief of the New Lenox PD**

Shortly after Dan took over as Public Safety Division Chief, New Lenox was accredited as a "Safe Community" by the National Safety Council and the WHO Collaborating Centre on Community Safety Promotion on April 27, 2010. New Lenox was the 9th community in the United States to receive this prestigious designation. New Lenox was re-accredited as a Safe Community on June 1, 2016.



Membership

Member Highlight (cont.)

Dan Martin

Dan wasn't done.

His next, and current, career move was the **Safety Community Coordinator for New Lenox.**

During his tenure as the Safety Community Coordinator, Dan then started the **New Lenox CERT** organization in 2009. He held an informational meeting at that time and was surprised when 92 people showed up wanting to participate. Two years later in 2012, nearly 200 people had completed the 20-hour, seven-week course that teaches residents how to prepare for emergencies and disasters.

Yes, Dan doesn't sleep.

The **CERT Association of Illinois** is another notch in Dan Martin's belt. Dan held two conferences in 2019 to jumpstart the Association. To date, the Association has grown to 93 members within 55 jurisdictions. **None of this was possible without Dan Martin's initiatives. He's one of the good guys.**

Dan has a bachelor's degree in criminal justice from Southern Illinois University, a master's degree in public administration from Lewis University and is a graduate of the FBI National Academy and the Northwestern University School of Police Staff and Command.



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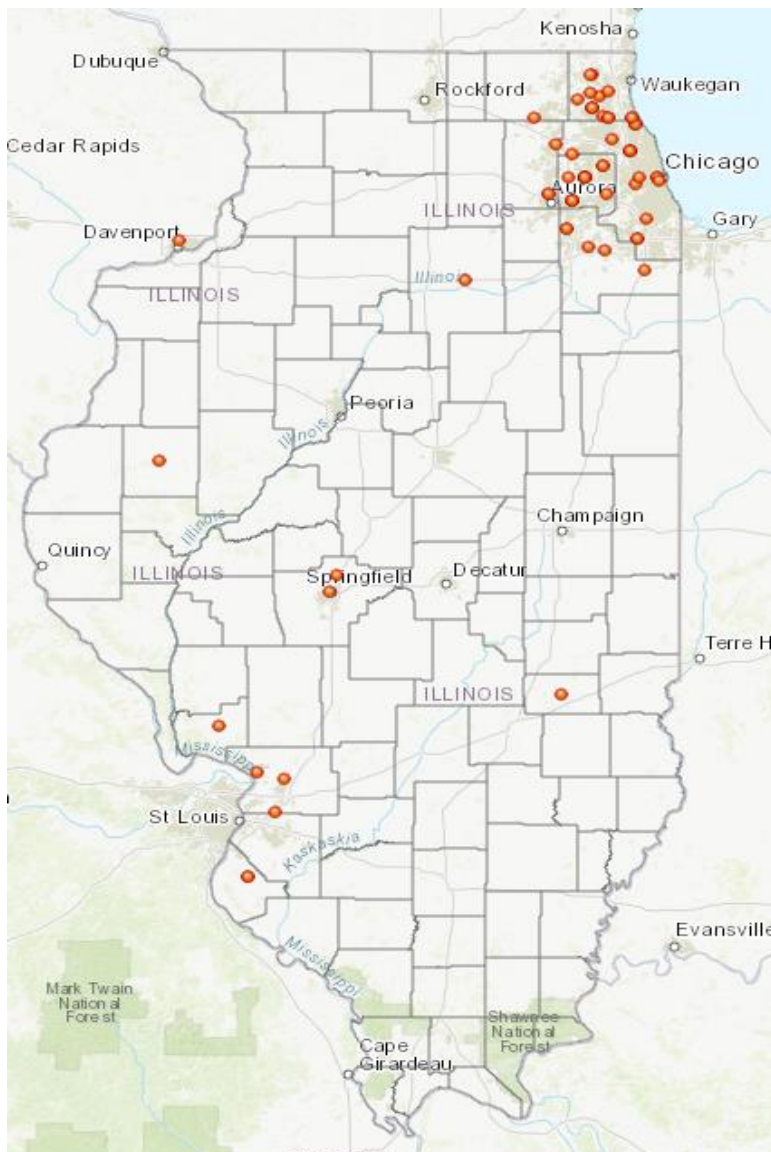
Membership

Illinois CERT teams, if you have a Facebook page for your CERT organization, please send the link to the Newsletter Committee:

Kurt Clifford kdclifford@yahoo.com

Sheri Drotor shd@cumberlandhealth.org

The CERT Association of Illinois is putting together a list of all Illinois CERT team Facebook pages. We would also like to follow your pages!



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Current Members

Addison Police Department	Milton Township
Beecher Police Department	Monroe County Emergency Management Agency
Berwyn Fire Department	Mount Prospect Fire Department
Buffalo Grove CERT	Mundelein Fire Department
Buffalo Grove Emergency Management Agency	Naperville CERT
Carol Stream CERT	Naperville Fire Department
Carol Stream Police Department	Niles Police Department
Chicago CERT	North Aurora Police Department
Chicago Police Department - 12th District Community Policing Office	Northbrook Fire Department
City of Chicago Office of Emergency Management and Communications	Palos Park Police Department
Collinsville Emergency Management Agency	Park Ridge Police Department
Cook County Department of Emergency Management and Regional Security	Plainfield Police Department
Cumberland County Health Department	Rock Island County
Harlem Roscoe Fire Department (Illinois Stateline CERT)	Round Lake Beach Emergency Management Agency
Highland Park CERT	Serve Illinois Commission
Highland Park Police Department	Sherman Emergency Management Agency
Huntley CERT	South Lake County Regional CERT
Huntley Police Department	St. Clair County Citizen
Illinois Department of Public Health	Stateline CERT
Jersey County	Tinley Park Emergency Management Agency
Kendall County Emergency Management Agency	Village of Alsip
Lake County	Village of Monee
LaSalle County Emergency Management Agency	Village of New Lenox
Long Grove Fire Protection District	Village of Oak Park
Madison County	Wauconda Emergency Management Agency
Madison County Emergency Management	West Chicago Police Department
McDonough County ESDA	Westmont Fire Department
McHenry County EMA	

Michelle Hanneken with Serve Illinois is looking for Illinois CERT programs who are working cooperatively with their local **Medical Reserve Corps** during COVID-19 on various issues like contact tracing, testing, etc. The state would like to highlight your good work, and so would FEMA.

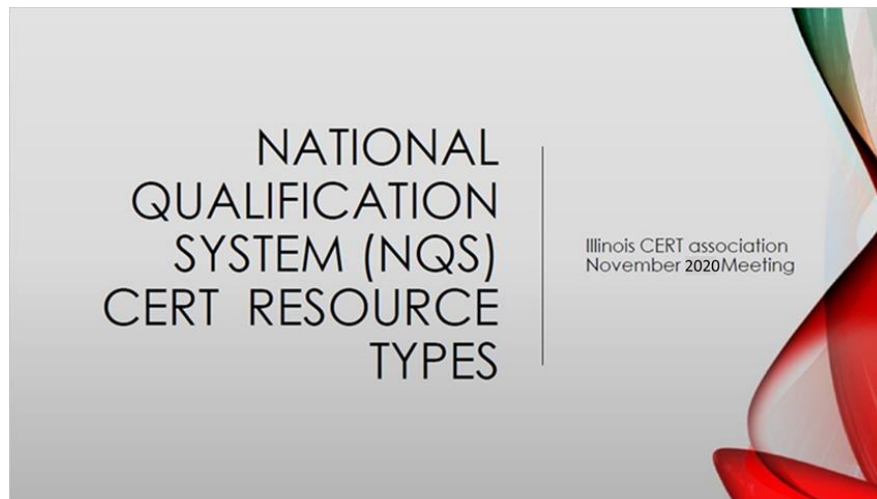
Please contact Michelle at michelle.j.hanneken@illinois.gov if you are collaborating with the MRC.

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Training

Past Training

If you missed the **CERT Association of Illinois** member meeting on 11/17, **Rich Frizelis of Chicago CERT** did a great job reviewing FEMA's 3 proposed new *CERT NQS Job Titles/Position Qualifications and Position Books* ranging from a CERT Volunteer position up to CERT Section Chief.



FEMA has introduced Resource Typing for CERT Volunteer positions. Resource Typing is a key component of the National Incident Management System (NIMS) and enables organizations from across the country to work together during incidents of all types and sizes.

To view the slides for the presentation

[*CERT NQS Job Titles/Position Qualifications and Position Books*](#)

Thanks again Rich for your training support to the CERT Association of Illinois! It's collaboration and information like this that we are striving to build and share!



Training

South Lake County Regional



Past Training

South Lake County Regional CERT – September 26, 2020



Lake County Health Department did an exercise this past week - drive thru flu vaccination clinic for Lake County employees. Practicing and working out the kinks for future mobile covid19 vaccination sites.

South Lake County Regional CERT

and other **Lake County CERT** and **MRC** teams lent a hand one of the 3 days. Great job everyone - fits perfect with September preparedness and CERT week.

It went smoothly. The organizers should be proud.



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Training

Past Training

Huntley CERT – Great team’s performance during their hands-on small-scale monthly training exercise. Thank you all for all your training and continued support to your community.

Special thank you to **Michael Piwko** for videotaping the outside portion of our exercise.

https://drive.google.com/file/d/1kKSI3GTOW5pD7Ha1WEn2_bQiNKrcsHGB/view?fbclid=IwAR3NEIzWrx9sTTGATusQSPGSfLvRf6TyLII_P96sDvskqpl85VvyZfHZxKU



For more information click on Huntley CERT’s Facebook site....

[Community Emergency Response Team-Huntley \(CERT-Huntley\) | Facebook](#)

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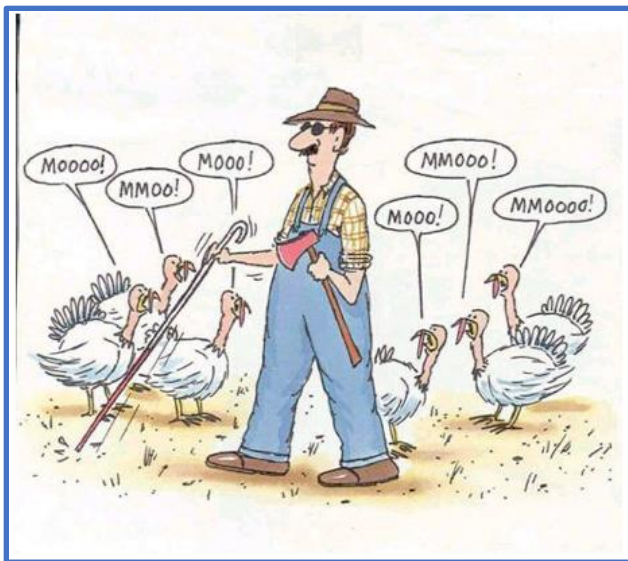
Training



Past Training

Buffalo Grove CERT - Eight members of the Buffalo Grove CERT have successfully completed a **Polaris driver's course** required of all firefighter/paramedics, and now CERT members, to operate the department's Polaris ATV.

The CERT members will be allowed to use the Polaris during events such as; first aid fun run/ walks for local and village sponsored events, light search and rescue during and after a major event, missing person searches, and any other task assigned by the village's EMA.



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Events

Past Events

2020 Prairie State Cyber CERT Challenge - Oct. 24, 2020

A BIG thanks to Rich Frizelis (Chicago CERT) and Trish Billings (Milton Township CERT) for putting this together.
It was a fantastic job!

Agenda For The Day

- ▶ Your Hosts Trish Billings & Rich Frizelis
- ▶ Introduction of the CERT Association of Illinois - Rich Wilson & Kurt Clifford
- ▶ Serve Illinois - Michelle Hanneken
- ▶ MERIT - Jordan Sklnasky
- ▶ 100 non CERT, CERT Things - Rich Frizelis
- ▶ Keynote presentation
- Points of Distribution; In Anticipation Of The Vaccine Release
 - Patricia Corn LEHP Coordinator at Lake County Public Health
 - Sabit Abbasi, DuPage County Office of Homeland Security & Emergency Management
- ▶ Illinois Search and Rescue Council
- ▶ American Red Cross -Paul Phelps Disaster Program Manager

Mass Vaccination: Point of Dispensing and Vaccine Updates

10/24/2020

Thanks to Sabit Abbasi from Dupage County OEM and Patricia Corn from Lake County Public Health for presenting the "Mass Vaccination: Point of Dispensing and Vaccine Updates" section.



Twitter/Instagram: @LakeCoHealth
Facebook: @HealthDepartment
Website: www.LakeCountyIL.gov



Twitter/Facebook/Instagram:
@ProtectDuPage
Website: www.ProtectDuPage.org



Facebook:
@CERTAssociationofIllinois
Website: www.CERTIllinois.com

Events

Past Events (cont.)

2020 Prairie State Cyber CERT Challenge - Oct. 24, 2020

Thanks to **Paul Phelps** from **American Red Cross** for presenting "Disaster Cycle Services".



Thanks again to Rich Frizelis (Chicago CERT) for presenting "100 Non-CERT, CERT Things".



100 Non-CERT, CERT Things

2020 Prairie State Cyber CERT Challenge

MERIT

Thanks to Jordan Sklansky (Buffalo Grove EMA) for presenting an overview of the MERIT program.

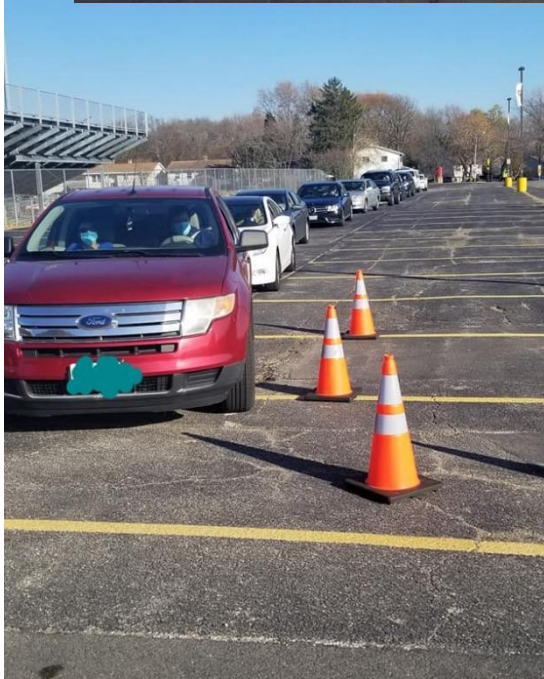
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Events



Past Events

Mundelein CERT along with some assistance from **Fremont Township CERT** provided traffic support today for the IDPH mobile covid testing site at Mundelein High School. Hundreds of people (patiently) waiting for testing. CERT loved to help out in shorts or t- shirts in November. The craziness of 2020 continues. Stay safe Mundelein and Lake County!



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Events

Past Events

We had a recent suggestion for all CERT entities in Illinois to share a picture of their CERT vehicles. Feel free to share pictures on the CERT Association's Facebook site.

[CERT Association of Illinois - Home](#) | [Facebook](#)



Bryan Nicholson (Round Lake Beach EMA)



Jerry Horn (Winnebago CERT)

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Events

Past Events (cont.)



Trish Billings (Milton Township CERT)



Kim Immenhausen Kelly (Mundelein CERT)



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Events



Past Events

CERT Teams have stepped up during the Thanksgiving holiday by helping to get turkeys out to their communities so everyone can enjoy a Happy Thanksgiving dinner.



New Lenox CERT, November 25th
Special thanks to our volunteers who assisted yesterday at the New Lenox Township Food Pantry. The pantry provided turkeys for those that needed some assistance during these difficult times. Hopefully these families will have a Happy Thanksgiving thanks to this wonderful event!



More turkeys given away!!...

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Events



Past Events



Stateline CERT, November 19 -
Great Job Illinois **Stateline CERT**
helping to get yummy turkey
dinner distributed to seniors out
in Roscoe!



We are guessing we served over 450 meals!! A huge Thank you to the Roscoe Lion's club members, all our fire personnel, and our CERT team members that put in the work to make this happen!



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Events

Past Events



Milton Township CERT, November 19
- Milton Township CERT Team sponsored a tree at Brookfield Zoo. The team decorated it with decorations they made. Except the absolutely beautiful Star that was bought!
Great job to everyone involved!



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Events

Current Events

Quad City CERT, November 20th - As COVID-19 continues to create daily challenges for many Quad City citizens, the Quad Cities Chamber created this concise resource guide to help working parents gain access to childcare, remote learning support for their online-only students and mental health services to manage the stress and anxiety of balancing work while helping their children succeed in school.

The information in this resource guide titled "*Resources for Working Parents*" can help with the following topics.

Childcare

Remote Learning Support

Mental Health Support

Tips for Employers

Here is a link to the Resource Guide.

[Resources for working parents | Quad Cities Chamber](#)



Here also is a link to the Quad City CERT Facebook site.

[Quad City Community Emergency Response Team - CERT - Home | Facebook](#)

Events



Current Events

Take Time for Yourself.

Thanks to **Mike Moos (Sherman Emergency Management Agency)** for directing us to the newsletter put out by the **NATIONAL WILDFIRE COORDINATING GROUP (NWCG) Risk Management Committee - Mental Health Subcommittee**. The organization offers help and resources during these excessively stressful times we're experiencing.

Take Time for Yourself.

It is okay to take time for yourself without feeling guilty. Be mindful and focus on the present rather than dwell on the past or worry about the future. Spending just 15 minutes alone, without distractions, may refresh you enough to handle everything that is going on.

Sometimes self-care is the best thing you can do, and others will benefit when you're feeling less stressed.

Many people either choose to spend the holidays alone or end up that way as a matter of circumstance. A solitary celebration is an excellent opportunity to create the holiday of your dreams. Today things are very different, and spending time home alone or taking a trip over the holidays can be a rewarding experience. A holiday does not need to be shared with others to be celebrated. It simply needs to be enjoyed.

Regardless, don't be held hostage by the holidays. Make time to rest, recharge, and do something you enjoy.

- ♣ Reflect on aspects of your life that give you joy.
- ♣ Think about the things you have rather than what you don't have.
- ♣ Too much holiday cheer such as alcohol can increase your stress.
- ♣ Be realistic. As families change and grow, traditions often change as well. Try to be flexible.
- ♣ Stick to a budget.
- ♣ It is okay to say no and cut back on commitments.
- ♣ Stay with your regular exercise routine.
- ♣ Manage expectations. Not everything is always perfect.
- ♣ Stay connected. For people who live far away from family members or who've recently lost loved ones, the holidays can be a lonely time. Reach out.
- ♣ Know your triggers and healthy ways to work through them.
- ♣ Remember, you may enjoy the holidays this year more than you thought you could.



Regional News

North

North Region info TBD

Central

Central Region info TBD

South

South Region info TBD

Board Members (Interim)

Balla, Tonya - Mundelein Fire Department

Clifford, Kurt – McHenry County EMA

Gaonkar, Gaurav - Village of Oak Park

James, Randy - South Lake County Regional CERT

Moos, Mike - Sherman Emergency Management Agency

Small, Marc - Long Grove Fire Protection District

Tubbs, Latesha - City of Chicago Office of Emergency Management and Communications

Wilson, Rich – Buffalo Grove Emergency Management Agency





CERT Organization

Oversight Committees

ByLaws – Randy James



Training – Rich Wilson

Rich Frizelis (Chicago CERT)

Laura Townsend (Northbrook CERT)



Web Site – Gaurav Gaonkar



Social Media – Tonya Balla

Beth Drendel



Newsletter – Kurt Clifford

Sheri Drotor



Meetings / Agendas – Rich Wilson



Meeting Minutes – Kurt Clifford

Membership – Kurt Clifford



Geocoding Members - Edgar Rodriguez



Basecamp for Members – Michelle Hanneken



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CERT Organization

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Email: info@certillinois.com

Follow us on



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



<https://www.certillinois.com>

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