

# **Costa Mesa Fire Department Community Emergency Response Team Training (CERT)**

The Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) Program is presented by the Costa Mesa Fire Department and is designed for the citizen responder. The CERT course prepares and teaches community members to become better prepared for emergencies, how to suppress small fires, assist with medical emergencies, conduct light search & rescue and how to organized people and resources before, during and after a major disaster. There is no fee to attend this program other than your commitment of time and effort.

In the event of a major emergency, the CERT community members may also assist local public safety officials. CERT graduates are registered as Disaster Service Workers and are protected under CA State Worker's Compensation guidelines while training or assisting during a disaster. The City of Costa Mesa is dedicated to creating a strong CERT program. CERT members meet the 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of every month to practice and learn new skills.

***Your community needs you! The next WEEKEND CERT course will be offered Friday-Sunday, October 1, 2 and 3. Friday hours are 6 -10 pm and weekend days 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. CONTACT THE CERT COORDINATOR AT (714) 327-7406 OR EMAIL [BEMRICK@CI.COSTA-MESA.CA.US](mailto:BEMRICK@CI.COSTA-MESA.CA.US) TO RESERVE YOUR PLACE IN THE NEXT CITY OF COSTA MESA FIRE DEPARTMENT COMMUNITY EMERGENCY RESPONSE TEAM PROGRAM.***

## **CERT COURSE CONTENT**

### **EARTHQUAKE AWARENESS AND PREPAREDNESS**

- The Earthquake Threat in Southern California
- City Resource Plan/Workplace/Personal and Family Preparedness

### **DISASTER FIRE SUPPRESSION TECHNIQUES**

- Fire Chemistry/Fire Extinguisher Use/ Creative Firefighting Techniques
- Utility Control
- Hazardous Materials Awareness

### **DISASTER MEDICAL OPERATIONS – SESSION I and II**

- Recognizing and Treating Life Threatening Injuries
- Triage (Systematic treatment of multiple victims)
- Head-to-Toe Evaluation
- Treatment Area Management

### **TEAM ORGANIZATION AND MANAGEMENT**

- Incident Command System (ICS) & Developing a Response Team

### **LIGHT SEARCH AND RESCUE**

- Search Techniques & Rescue Methods

### **COMMUNITY PREPAREDNESS AND HOMELAND SECURITY**

- Disaster Psychology (Emotional First Aid for Victims and CERT)
- Terrorism Awareness – Homeland Security

### **DISASTER SIMULATION**

- Disaster Exercise, Exercise Critique and Graduation Ceremony