



Fort Bend County Office of Emergency Management

VOLUNTEER NEWSLETTER

May/June 2010

Vol. 2, Issue 3

Training Opportunities

CERT Training:

Hosted by:

First Colony Church of
Christ

Aug 13th- 6:00pm-10:00pm

Aug 14th- 9:00am-5:00pm

Aug 15th- 1:00pm-8:00pm

Participants MUST attend all
three sessions to become CERT
certified.

Hosted by:

Fort Bend County Emer-
gency Service District# 4
(Fulshear / Simonton /
Weston Lakes Communities)

Aug 6th- 6:00pm - 10:00pm

Aug 7th- 8:00am - 4:00pm

Aug 8th- 8:00am - 4:00pm

Participants MUST attend all
three sessions to become CERT
certified.

Refer to page 4 for more infor-
mation on CERT curriculum.

Contact:

Shauna Evans,
Volunteer Programs Manager
Fort Bend County Office of
Emergency Management
at 281-238-3419 or
volunteers@fbcoem.org

Hurricane Categorization

Tropical Storm
(-)74 mph

Wind damage is negligible. Potential dangers include flooding that can accompany slower moving storms.

Category 1 Hurricane
74-95 mph

Minimal damage to building structures. Potential dangers include wind damage to substandard buildings and homes and debris.

Category 2 Hurricane
96-110 mph

Moderate damage to roofing material, doors, and windows.

Category 3 Hurricane
111-130 mph

Extensive damage to small residences, utility buildings, and other smaller structures with a minor amount of facade failures.

Category 4 Hurricane
131-155 mph

Extreme damage including more extensive wall failures and some complete roof structure failures on small residences.

Category 5 Hurricane
155 (+) mph

Damage is catastrophic including complete roof failure on many residences and industrial buildings. Some complete building failures with small utility buildings blown over and away.

The 2010 Hurricane Season is predicted to be a very active season. To learn how you can and your family can prepare, visit <http://www.fbcoem.org/go/doc/1528/258151/>

Local Boy Scouts and Parents Complete Community Emergency Response Training



The Fort Bend County Office of Emergency Management awarded certificates to 16 Boy Scouts and parents from Troop 1116 of Sugar Land on April 13, 2010. The boys, ages 12 – 18, completed the 8 week CERT training program which requires the completion of a 24-hour curriculum that focuses on the fundamentals of emergency preparedness and disaster activities. Participants received classroom and field training which includes demonstrations and practical exercises in fire suppression and search and rescue techniques. The program culminated with the Scouts participating in a full-scale disaster simulation exercise. Class instruction was provided by local response agencies, including the Sugar Land Fire Department, Fort Bend County Emergency Medical Services, and the Fort Bend County Office of Emergency Management.

Following the presentation of certificates by County Judge Robert Hebert, the graduates put their skills to the test in a mock-disaster exercise. This final exercise is designed to test and enhance the skills learned by each volunteer team member in a simulated disaster environment. With the assistance of several neighborhood children who portrayed disaster “victims”, the new graduates responded to a simulated building collapse with victims trapped inside. Team members practiced their skills in search and rescue, disaster medical and triage, and CERT organization as they worked the scene to locate, extract, and treat victims.

Following the presentation of certificates by County Judge Robert Hebert, the graduates put their skills to the test in a mock-disaster exercise. This final exercise is designed to test and enhance the skills learned by each volunteer team member in a simulated disaster environment. With the assistance of several neighborhood children who portrayed disaster “victims”, the new graduates responded to a simulated building collapse with victims trapped inside. Team members practiced their skills in search and rescue, disaster medical and triage, and CERT organization as they worked the scene to locate, extract, and treat victims.



“I was extremely impressed by the Scouts’ application of the skills and knowledge learned during the training. Their organizational skills and ability to work together is a testament to the Boy Scout program and the dedication of their leaders,” states Shauna Evans, Volunteer Programs Manager for the Fort Bend County Office of Emergency Management. “This group of boys will be an asset to the communities in which they live, should a disaster occur. I look forward to including them as an active CERT team,” adds Evans.

The Community Emergency Response Team program is sponsored by Fort Bend County and facilitated through the Fort Bend County Office of Emergency Management. For more information on the County’s volunteer programs, visit www.fbcoem.org or contact the Fort Bend County Office of Emergency Management at 281-342-6185.



Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) Training

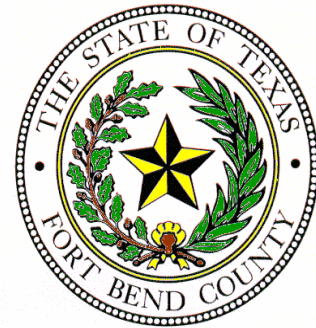
ALL Class
Materials &
Equipment
provided
FREE!!!

Do you know what to do when faced with an emergency? Do you feel helpless when disaster strikes? Your assistance could be critical before, during, and after a natural or man-made disaster. ARE YOU PREPARED?

CERT training offers information and skills volunteer teams can use to better prepare their families, neighbors and communities to cope with the aftermath of natural and man-made disasters. CERT teams provide immediate assistance and direction in their community until first responders can arrive.

The training program will cover areas such as:

- DISASTER PREPAREDNESS
- DISASTER FIRE SUPPRESSION
- DISASTER MEDICAL OPERATIONS
- LIGHT SEARCH AND RESCUE OPERATIONS
- DISASTER PSYCHOLOGY AND TEAM ORGANIZATION
- DISASTER SIMULATION (skills practice and application)



Graduates will be issued safety equipment and disaster supplies to use during the class scenario and to respond with. Members will also be asked to participate and be active in CERT Alumni programs and continuing education hours in order to remain credentialed. The Fort Bend County CERT Alumni Association services all communities in Fort Bend County and well as other governmental agencies in the area.

For enrollment information, go to <http://www.piersystem.com/go/survey/1528/1747/>. For questions and inquiries, please contact Shauna Evans at shauna.evans@co.fort-bend.tx.us or call the Fort Bend County Office of Emergency Management at 281-342- 6185.

Sponsored by:
Fort Bend County Office of Emergency Management

Neighbors helping neighbors' builds stronger communities and stronger families!

New Church Hosts CERT Training In Sugar Land



Hosted by the **Mosaic Community Covenant Church**, 16 local citizens completed the 8 week, 24-hour Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) training offered by the Fort Bend County Office of Emergency Management. Weekly class topics included: Disaster Preparedness, Fire Suppression, Disaster Medical Operations, Light Search and Rescue, Team Organization, and included simulations and exercises to give students hands-on experience. "It was a pleasure to work

with an organization that is so willing to serve their community. The Mosaic Church has already asked for more training and is looking for ways to serve the Sugar Land area. In the event of a disaster, they will be a valuable asset to the County's preparedness and response efforts." offers Shauna Evans, Volunteer Programs Manager for the Fort Bend County Office of Emergency Management.

On April 20, 2010, the Mosaic Church CERT team held their graduation ceremony and final exercise. The final exercise is designed to enhance the skills learned by each volunteer team member in a simulated disaster environment. With the assistance of the Sugar Land Fire Department and several young members of the church who portrayed disaster "victims", the Mosaic Church CERT team members responded to a simulated building collapse with victims trapped inside. Team members practiced their skills in search and rescue, disaster medical and triage, and CERT organization as they worked the scene to locate, extract, and treat victims.



Certificates and volunteer badges were presented by Alan Spear, Deputy Emergency Management Coordinator and Shauna Evans, Volunteer Programs Manager for the Fort Bend County Office of Emergency Management. "CERT is the perfect example of neighbor helping neighbor and the Mosaic team has what it take to make a difference in this community," adds Evans.

The Community Emergency Response Team program is sponsored by Fort Bend County and facilitated through the Fort Bend County Office of Emergency Management. For more information on the County's volunteer programs, visit www.fbcoem.org or contact the Fort Bend County Office of Emergency Management at 281-342-6185.

Hurricane Season Is Here! Are You Ready?

Following Hurricane Ike, OEM launched a new website at <http://www.fbcoem.org> (<http://www.fbcoem.org/>).

The new website has a lot of preparedness information and an emergency notification system called “FBC Alert.”

Citizens can register for at <http://alerts.fbcoem.org> to receive emergency information from Fort Bend County OEM.

If a hurricane forecast includes Fort Bend County, OEM will send email to all registered residents with a storm warning, and send updates as the threat changes. If an impact is imminent, you can receive Text (SMS) Messages and/or Text-to-Voice calls to up to three registered phone numbers.

The Office of Emergency Management urges all citizens to make to “Make a Plan, Build a Kit, and Stay Informed.” Visit our site for more information at <http://plan.fbcoem.org/>.



Do you want to learn more about the Fort Bend County Office of Emergency Management?

Do you have what it takes to work in the Emergency Operations Center during times of Emergency Response and Recovery?

HAVE WE GOT A PROGRAM FOR YOU !

**FORT BEND COUNTY
CITIZEN SUPPORT TEAM**



Class information and dates will be posted at
www.fbcoem.org/volunteers/CST

This newsletter is published by the Fort Bend County Office of Emergency Management for individuals and groups interested in community preparedness and response.

For matters regarding the Fort Bend County Office of Emergency Management Volunteer Programs, you may contact Shauna Evans, Volunteer Programs Manager at shauna.evans@co.fort-bend.tx.us or by calling 281-342-6185.

Forward comments, article ideas, upcoming events, or photos to oem@co.fort-bend.tx.us.

**Fort Bend County
Office of Emergency Management**

Jeff Braun, CEM
Emergency Management Coordinator