

## What Is C.E.R.T.?

The Sebastopol Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) Program educates people about disaster preparedness for hazards that may impact our area, and trains them in basic disaster response skills, such as fire safety, light search and rescue, team organization, law enforcement, communication, and disaster medical operations. Using the training learned in the classroom and during exercises, CERT members can assist others in their neighborhood or workplace following an event when professional first responders are not immediately available. CERT members are also encouraged to support emergency response agencies by taking a more active role in emergency preparedness projects in their community.

## Sebastopol CERT Board Members:

John Zanzi, Fire Chief  
*jzanzi@sonic.net*

Tom Boag, Retired Engineer  
*TRBoag@aol.com*

Ralph Harmon, Cartographer  
*rharmon@sonic.net*

Skip Jirrels, Realtor  
*sjirrels@comcast.net*

Denise Meier, Freelance Bookkeeper  
*denisem@sonic.net*

Art Trinei, Retired PG&E  
*atrinei@gmail.com*

## Sponsors:



# DISASTER PREPAREDNESS TRAINING

*Presented By:*



*and*



## Introduction

Following a major disaster, local-first responders who provide fire and medical services will not be able to meet the demand for these services. Various factors will prevent them from providing these services to all in need. **We will have to rely on each other for help in order to meet our immediate life saving and life sustaining needs.**

Under these kinds of conditions, it is common knowledge that people will spontaneously try to help each other. This was the case following the Mexico City earthquake where untrained, spontaneous volunteers saved 800 people. However, 100 people lost their lives while attempting to save others. This price is too high and is preventable through training.

If we can predict that emergency services will not meet immediate needs following a major disaster, and people will spontaneously volunteer naturally, what can Sebastopol do to prepare for this eventuality?

**First**, we can clarify local facts about what to expect in terms of immediate services.

**Second**, we can get the message out about our responsibility for mitigation and preparedness. **Third**, provide training in specific life saving skills. **Fourth**, organize teams so that they are an extension of first responder services offering immediate help to victims until professional services arrive.

## Sebastopol CERT Program

The Sebastopol CERT training will benefit any citizen who participates.

**This individual will be better prepared to respond to and cope with the aftermath of a disaster.**

Additionally, those trained as neighborhood, business, and government teams, in essence, become auxiliary responders. These groups can provide immediate assistance to victims in their area, organize spontaneous volunteers who have not had the training, and collect disaster intelligence that will assist professional responders with prioritization and allocation of resources following a disaster.

The Sebastopol CERT Program promotes a partnering effort between emergency services and the people they serve. **Citizens trained in basic response skills can support first responders and themselves.** The skills learned can help save and sustain lives until help arrives.

The CERT Certification Series for Sebastopol is presented in eight classes, with classes lasting 2½ hours. This training includes the following:

- FIRE SAFETY
- DISASTER MEDICAL 1 & 2
- LIGHT SEARCH & RESCUE
- TEAM ORGANIZATION
- LAW ENFORCEMENT COMMUNICATIONS
- REVIEW & DISASTER EXERCISE

## Cost

\$50.00 includes course instruction, the CERT manual, and upon completion of the course, a CERT equipped backpack. (In addition, Sebastopol graduates will receive a \$50.00 gift certificate for emergency preparedness supplies from Sebastopol Hardware Center.)

## Contact Us

**To Register for a class or for more information:**

**Call:** 707-823-8061

**Email:** [jzanzi@sonic.net](mailto:jzanzi@sonic.net)

**Visit our Website under City Departments/Fire):**

[www.ci.sebastopol.ca.us](http://www.ci.sebastopol.ca.us)

**Address:** 7425 Bodega Ave.  
Sebastopol Ca, 95472

Please contact Fire Chief John Zanzi, or any CERT Board member, to find out about additional volunteer or sponsorship opportunities.

**Additional resources:**

[www.sonomacert.com](http://www.sonomacert.com)

[www.72hours.org](http://www.72hours.org)

[www.arcsm.org](http://www.arcsm.org)

[www.cert-la.com](http://www.cert-la.com)

Google “Emergency Supplies”