



City of San Diego ♦ San Diego Fire-Rescue Department Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) San Diego

CERT San Diego: Firefighters and Citizens Working Together to Build Safer Communities.



Summer 2005 Program News

San Diego City Council Declares CERT San Diego Day

On Monday, June 20, 2005, San Diego City Council declared **CERT Day in San Diego** and awarded a proclamation honoring the efforts of the citizens of San Diego, the San Diego Fire-Rescue department and sponsors whose enthusiasm has made this program so successful in its first 17 months. But it's only the beginning for a City of more than 1.25 million people, the seventh largest city in America.

CERT San Diego is the City's disaster preparedness program, bringing together volunteers, firefighters and paramedics, City Council districts, businesses, City and County emergency teams in America's Finest City.

Help CERT help San Diego!!

- San Diego Fire-Rescue has received a **partial City funding** along with a generous grant from **Fireman's Fund** for CERT San Diego that will last until July 2006.
- CERT San Diego is **seeking grants, sponsors and donors** to help us expand and continue the momentum through this public/private partnership program.
- CERT San Diego **needs your volunteer team and time** to help support our neighborhoods in disasters such as earthquakes, fires, floods and terrorism events.
- Join us... contact **CERT San Diego** today!

CERT San Diego
Community Emergency Response Team

San Diego Fire-Rescue Department
(619) 533-3075

City of San Diego
Email: cert@sandiego.gov



2005 CERT Academies:

CERT San Diego is on track to more than double its graduate base in 2005. We now have CERT volunteers trained in all eight City Council Districts; however, this is only the beginning. To date, we have trained 181 CERTified volunteer disaster service workers in eight week academies. We have reworked our schedule to shorten the class to six weeks to stimulate participation. We focus our recruitment of existing community groups in an effort to build “instant teams”. We are also targeting under-represented areas and areas of higher risk. *CERT San Diego* teams attract community do-gooders of all ages (18+) and abilities. Special thanks to the CERT Instructor Team, consisting of firefighters and paramedics who make it all possible.

March: Academy 4, graduated 40 students

This class enhanced our existing teams in Scripps Ranch, Navajo and Tierrasanta and cultivated new collaboration with SDSU. This academy’s graduation drill was covered by six San Diego TV stations; the drill simulated an 8.0 earthquake with 20 victims. CERT members formed a team in the ICS (Incident Command Structure); located and evacuated victims, triaged and performed medical treatment; used cribbing techniques to rescue a victim trapped beneath a cement slab and extinguished a small utility fire.



CERT Chief Instructor Stan Sgambelluri



CERT San Diego’s 4th Academy graduation on March 19

June: - Academy 5, graduated 40 students

San Diego City Councilman Jim Madaffer, 5th academy graduate, was CERT spokesperson, to help spread the word citywide. *CERT San Diego* drill was featured extensively on TV and in the Union Tribune. This class added a new CERT team to the community of University Heights, with more on the way in the 6th academy; added 10 new members to the Scripps Ranch team, 7 new Tierrasanta members and 7 new Navajo grads. *CERT San Diego* utilized its new ham radio team as a key component of this graduation drill.

CERT SAN DIEGO NEEDS YOU!!!!

Sept 7 –Oct 15 ♦ 6th academy

Six week class held near San Diego airport ♦ Wed. night 6-10pm or Sat. mornings 8:30-12:30

Community Emergency Response Team (619) 533-3075

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CERT San Diego's 5th Academy graduated June 4.

[CERT Disaster Drills:](#)

May 14: CERT SAN DIEGO's countywide CERT drill

Planned and hosted by *CERT San Diego* and *CERT Coronado*, this countywide disaster drill/CERT refresher attracted 100 CERT grads countywide and was followed by numerous media outlets, helping to spread the word throughout the region. Drill featured our first ham radio exercise. The terrorism drill involved two buildings, a bus crash and 24 victims.

March-June: Multi-casualty Fire-Rescue Drill, SDSU Trolley Disaster Drill and USAR (Urban Search & Rescue) Drill

CERT volunteers offer field assistance and act as volunteer victims to first responder teams throughout the year to build skills and teamwork with Fire-Rescue, USAR teams, law enforcement and other responders.



[CERT Staff update:](#)

- Program Manager **Barbara Ayers** elected Vice Chair of San Diego County CERT Council and delegate to Citizens Corps; certified as T4 CERT Program Manager by State CERT work group.
- Firefighter **Stan Sgambelluri** named CERT San Diego Chief Instructor.
- Special thanks to CERT program volunteers **Nick Rodi** and **Christine Marcucci**.
- CERT SD awarded a one-year *VISTA/Points of Life Foundation* grant with *Volunteer San Diego* to fund a program volunteer. **Sean Duggan**, a retired business pro from Washington, starts in August.



CERT team members in action, drilling in the ICS structure, search and rescue, basic fire suppression, medical triage and treatment, planning, logistics, administration functions.



SUCCESS! CERT team drills on cribbing (search & rescue) technique to save a victim “trapped” beneath a 1,000 pound cement slab, using simple objects such as wood blocks and pry bars.

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Photos (left to right): CERT 5th academy grad City Councilman Jim Madaffer; CERT volunteers join fire department multi-casualty drill; Council member Maienschein awards Ed Holler, Scripps Ranch CERT team leader a volunteerism award; CERT Instructor Captain Dan Saner interviewed after a graduation drill.

Council District Update

CD 1: Scott Peters
CD 2: Michael Zucchet
CD 3: Toni Atkins
CD 4: Anthony Young
CD 5: Brian Maienschein
CD 6: Donna Frye
CD 7: Jim Madaffer
CD 8: Ralph Inzunza

CERT graduates trained in:

La Jolla, University City, Rancho Penasquitos, RB
Ocean Beach, Pacific Beach, downtown, City Heights
University Heights, Talmadge, North Park, City Heights
Encanto, Oak Park - Chollas Creek , Lincoln Park
Scripps Ranch, Mira Mesa
Bay Park, Clairemont, Serra Mesa, Kearny Mesa, MB, PB
Tierrasanta, Allied Gardens, Del Cerro, Grantville, college
Golden Hill, downtown, south bay

All of these communities need additional members and we need teams in under-represented areas!

Community CERT team update:

Scripps Ranch CERT Our first team, large, active with monthly meetings and drills
Tierrasanta CERT Our largest team, active with monthly meetings
Navajo CERT Medium sized team, now holding regular team meetings
University Heights CERT Brand new team, growing, teamed with UH Neighborhood Watch
Talmadge CERT Brand new team from Talmadge Fire Safe Council

Many communities currently have team members but need leaders and members.



CERT San Diego presence at public outreach events and meetings:

Del Mar Fair booth, TV PSA on local TV, In studio, Local Eight News, San Diego People/KUSI-TV, University Heights Community Assn (CA), Business Owners and Managers Assn., San Ysidro Community Council (CC), University City Town Council (TC), Ridge gate CA, Kensington Fire Safe, SDSU Open House, Beach & Boating Fair, Patriot's Day Parade, Scripps Ranch July 4 parade, Allied Gardens Spring Fest, Emerald Hills CC, Mission Beach TC, YMCA of San Diego, Fire Safe Councils of San Diego, Santa Clara Rec Council, Ocean Beach TC, Nokia Safety Fair, SANDARC, ECRU, ARES, RACES, San Diego Auto Show, San Diego Weatherfest, Burn Run/Fire Expo, Mission Valley CC, Torrey Pines Kiwanis, SBC, Business Improvement District Council, Council Member Young's (CD 4) Public Safety Fair, Talmadge Block Party and more.

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Built/building collaboration with:

Fireman's Fund, New Car Dealers Assn., SBC, Citizen's Corps Council, CERT County Council, San Diego City Firefighters, Red Cross, Miramar Fire Dept. (USMC), Fire-Rescue Fire Prevention and Community Outreach divisions, Monroe Clark Safe Schools Program, San Diego County Fire Safe Council, Ham Radio groups, San Diego County Office of Education, Union Tribune, Annheuser Busch, Qualcomm, San Diego CHOICE/Americorps, Volunteer San Diego, San Diego County Office of Emergency Services, The Burn Institute, Federal Office of Homeland Security (OHS), State OHS, City OHS, VOAD, UCSD, W Hotel.



Budget update

- Special thanks to our sponsor, **Fireman's Fund**, for seed money to start the CERT program. We are currently seeking new funding, sponsors, marketing partnerships and collaboration for 2006.
- Obtained partial City funding in Fire-Rescue FY 06 Budget for CERT San Diego.
- Thanks to **New Car Dealers Assn.** for their donation of a Chevy Silverado truck to CERT SD.
- We reduced CERT academy length from eight weeks to six, still exceeding FEMA standards.
- Shifted focus from purchase of expensive equipment and supplies to intensive community training.
- Currently exploring utilization of UASI and other public safety grants.
- Currently developing a sustainable program model while preserving class quality; exploring cost saving measures, addition of supplemental volunteer instructors and college CERT classes.
- Established fair share limits (50 tuition free grads per community) to ensure citywide services.
- Class is taught tuition free to City residents; will charge students for disaster kits as cost recovery.

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Photos (left to right): CERT Talmadge team in action; CERT instructors-- Battalion Chief Ronald Hicks and firefighters Joe Amador and Dan Eddy; CERT 4th academy grad Paul Jacob; CERT San Diego and CERT Coronado teamed up for May's countywide CERT drill-- Felicia Gillham-Standfuss of Coronado and Stephen Rhoades of Navajo CERT.

CERT Ham Radio Team

After extensive recruitment of ham volunteers, we have formed a CERT ham team, led by David Pais and Michael Brown. We incorporated ham operations into spring drills and are currently building the team and its protocols. We recruited CERT grads into ham technician classes to encourage participation.

Current/future planning:

Currently: Marketing and fundraising phase; CERT San Diego Advisory Group formed.

Next Phase: Development of advanced locally deployable CERT team, Activation and Communications plans; Spontaneous Volunteer Plan for Fire-Rescue; marketing and fundraising continues.

PROCLAMMATION OF CERT Day in San Diego

WHEREAS, the City of San Diego has learned valuable lessons from responding to large-scale disasters such as wildfires and mudslides that there are never enough public safety resources to respond to every neighborhood in a timely manner and also that citizens want to help; and

WHEREAS, the City of San Diego's answer to emergency preparedness is Community Emergency Response Teams (CERT); and

WHEREAS, after the devastating Cedar Fire that took 14 lives and destroyed more than 280,000 acres in October of 2003, the City of San Diego's Fire-Rescue Department developed the CERT San Diego program as a way to meet the vital needs of local communities; and

WHEREAS, in CERT San Diego academies citizens are taught life-saving actions by San Diego Fire-Rescue personnel that can help families, neighbors, businesses and communities get through the first few hours following a major disaster when emergency services are overwhelmed; and

WHEREAS, the fifth CERT academy graduated this June for a total of 181 volunteers who have successfully completed the program and are certified to national Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) standards since the program's inception last year; and

WHEREAS, Fire Chief Jeff Bowman, the Fire-Rescue Department, volunteers graduates of the CERT program in communities throughout San Diego, Fireman's Fund, who provided start up moneys for the program and New Car Dealers Association, who donated a vehicle to the program, are to be commended for ensuring that this vital program is actively providing an invaluable service for the citizens of San Diego; NOW, THEREFORE,

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mayor and City Council of the City of San Diego, that this Council, for and on behalf of the people of San Diego, does hereby recognize the overwhelming success of this program and proclaims June 20, 2005 to be "Community Emergency Response Team—CERT Day" in the City of San Diego.

**Presented by Councilmember Jim Madaffer
SAN DIEGO CITY COUNCIL
Monday, June 20, 2005**



CERT SAN DIEGO PROGRAM OFFICE

Barbara Ayers, Program Manager

CITY OF SAN DIEGO

SAN DIEGO FIRE-RESCUE DEPARTMENT

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JOIN US ♦ 6th CERT San Diego academy: Sept. 7- Oct. 15 ♦

Six week class held near San Diego airport ♦ Wed. night 6-10pm or Sat. mornings 8:30-12:30

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CERT SAN DIEGO (COMMUNITY EMERGENCY RESPONSE TEAM)

6th Academy: 6 weeks, 4 hrs/week September 7 – October 15, 2005

DAY/DATE	MODULE	SUBJECT
Wed. 9/7 6-10 pm or Sat. 9/10 8:30 am -12:30	Module I	Disaster Preparedness, Intro to CERT program
Wed. 9/14 6-10pm or Sat. 9/17 8:30am-12:30	Module II and VIII	Fire Safety, Terrorism, Bio Hazards
Wed. 9/21 6-10pm or Sat. 9/24 8:30am-12:30	Module III and IV	Disaster Medical Operations
Wed 9/28 6-10pm or Sat. 10/1 8:30am-12:30	Module V	Search & Rescue
Wed 10/5 6-10pm or Sat. 10/8 8:30am-12:30	Module VI and VII	ICS, CERT organization, psychology, hands on skills
Sat.10/15 8:30am-1:30 (Final only offered on Saturday - longer class)	Module VIX, Final	Exam, disaster drill and graduation ceremony