



City of Brook Park CERT News

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January 2008

Year One of the City of Brook Park CERT has been a busy time for all involved. As we continue to grow, train, organize and plan for the future, we look forward to collaborating and learning from the experiences of other CERTs. We hope quarterly newsletters will help to share information and combine training efforts. (Continued)

Training News

Brook Park will provide the CERT basic training beginning with an orientation meeting Wednesday, January 23rd. Classes will be held Wednesdays at 7:00 p.m. and Saturdays at 9:00 a.m. at the Brook Park Recreation Center. For additional information, please contact Tricia Granfors, 440.552.5785; CERT_Admin@windstream.net.

Jan 26 – Module 6	Feb 20 – Module 5
Jan 30 – Module 1	Feb 23 – Make-up
Feb 2 – Make-up	Feb 27 – Module 7
Feb 6 – Module 2	Mar 1 – Module 8
Feb 9 – Module 3	Mar 5 – Make-up
Feb 13 – Make-up	Mar 8 – Final Drill
Feb 16 – Module 4	

Logistics Update

The team has 45 complete backpacks. Medical kits arrived in time for Christmas. Where the packs will be stored has been a matter of much discussion and debate. For the time being the bags will be stored at the main fire station. Large tubs are being purchased in which the bags will be stored. Once inventoried, numbered, and with pictorial and written contents guides added, the bags will be secured for future use. A "Show and Tell" demonstration will be part of a future General Meeting agenda to familiarize the team on the backpack contents.

Planning Report

Standard Operating Procedures: A designated format for SOPs has been developed. The format includes approval signatures by four City departments, the CERT Coordinator and the Safety Director. The first SOP is General Policies and Procedures, which includes information on membership, operations, organization and meetings. SOP-2 is the CERT Activation and Member Call List. Exhibit A to this SOP contains the Emergency Call Out list in a flow chart format. A third SOP will be drafted during the first quarter of 2008 titled CERT Equipment. SOP-4 will cover communications issues including radio procedures.

Activation Scenarios and Community Outreach:

This year a detailed list of potential activation scenarios and community outreach activities will be developed. This list will be used to identify potential "jobs," incident command activities, and safety, staging and logistical considerations. The pre-planning will serve to brief new members on CERT activities and identify areas where additional training would be beneficial.

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(Continued) It was just about a year ago that we held our CERT program kickoff meeting. We had an excellent start to the program with nearly 20 individuals completing the 20-hour training course.

The Brook Park CERT was activated twice in 2007. The first activation was in July when President Bush's motorcade was traveling through Brook Park. Our police forces were tasked with barricading roads and driveways along the President's route to and from Hopkins Airport. The CERT assisted the Police and Service Departments placing barricades, handing out flyers to local businesses along the travel routes and assisting in blocking driveways so no one could enter the President's motorcade.

The second activation was in August when the city experienced over three inches of rain in a three-hour period. The excessive rain caused flooding in many homes. The CERT assisted the Service Department by assessing the damage in the homes, determining whether homes needed water pumped out, and notifying the Service Department of those homes that needed pumped out. The CERT members were a definite "Force Enhancer" in each situation, and as we continue to grow, we'll be able to make a greater impact in the city.

The leadership team is working to move the Brook Park CERT from infancy to a vital and contributing presence in our city. One goal is to double the membership in 2008. As part of this goal the theme for 2008 is **"Each One, Reach One."** Realizing this goal will give us the vitality and ability to make a real difference in our city. 🗣️