

## **WHAT IS C.E.R.T.?**

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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, 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 responders are not immediately available to help. CERT members also are encouraged to support emergency response agencies by taking a more active role in emergency preparedness projects in their community.

## **HOW DO I GET INVOLVED?**

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**Please call**  
**707-823-8061**

**Email Us at:**  
**jzanzi@sonic.net**

**Visit our website:**  
**www.ci.sebastopol.ca.us**

## **Sebastopol CERT Board Members:**

John Zanzi – Fire Chief  
jzanzi@sonic.net

Jefferson Buller – Bank of America  
jefferson.j.buller@bankofamerica.com

Skip Jirrels – Coldwell Banker  
skip.jirrels@camoves.com

Mark Sell – Sebastopol Hardware  
lleskram@aol.com

Jen Thille  
CERT@halifirien.com

Art Trinei – Retired  
atrinei@gmail.com

## **Sponsors:**

Sebastopol Hardware – Silver  
Pacatte Construction Co. – Silver  
Spirka Electric Co. - Bronze  
Bank of America  
Exchange Bank  
Lori Burmeyer  
Skip Jirrels

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# **Sebastopol**



7425 Bodega Ave.  
Sebastopol Ca, 95472  
(707) 823-8061

## **Introduction**

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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**

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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, will 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 training 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.

### **Delivery**

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There are two tracks to receiving Sebastopol CERT training. You can participate in the full "CERT Certification Series" or attend one or more "Drop-in Preparedness Modules".

**CERT Certification Series** for Sebastopol will be delivered in 2 1/2 hour sessions, one evening a week over a 7 week period. This training includes the following:

TEAM ORGANIZATION  
FIRE SAFETY  
LIGHT SEARCH AND RESCUE  
DISASTER MEDICAL OPERATIONS  
REVIEW & DISASTER EXERCISE

### **COST**

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\$50.00 (Volunteers will receive \$50.00 in gift certificates for emergency preparedness supplies upon completion of the series.)

**Drop-in Preparedness Modules** for Sebastopol are 2 ½ hour classes for those unable to attend the full course or interested in specific information in each class. This training includes the following:

FIRE SAFETY  
DISASTER MEDICAL SKILLS 1  
DISASTER MEDICAL SKILLS 2  
LIGHT SEARCH AND RESCUE

### **COST**

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\$5.00 per class

### **QUESTIONS & COURSE SIGN UP**

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Information and schedules on the CERT Series and Preparedness Modules will be posted on the Fire Department Section of the Sebastopol website noted below. Please contact Fire Chief John Zanzi, or any CERT Board member, directly to find out about additional volunteer or sponsorship opportunities.

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