

Organization

The Villages Community Emergency Response Teams (CERT) are a joint partnership of The Villages Public Safety Department (VPSD) and The Villages Homeowners Association (VHA). The VHA and VPSD organize classes for any Villagers wishing to be CERT trained, and the VPSD conducts the training. After completion of training, the Villagers are integrated into CERT teams based on neighborhood location.

Class Schedule

Classes are scheduled whenever there are sufficient applicants for a class. Normally, classes are held in the fall and spring to accommodate as many Villagers as possible.

Multi-County Operation

The program is supported by the Emergency Management programs from the Marion County Sheriff's Department, Lake County Fire and Rescue, Sumter County Sheriff's Department, Lady Lake Police Department, Lake-Sumter EMS, The Villages Public Safety Department, and The Villages Homeowners Association.

The Villages Public Safety Department



CERT

Community Emergency Response Team

Who can be a part of the CERT?

Any resident of The Villages can be a member of the CERT teams. Registration forms can be obtained at The Villages Public Safety Department Headquarters or call (352) 205-8280 to have a form mailed.

CERT

has been created to teach citizens basic life saving skills which will enable you to help your family and neighbors in the event of a catastrophic disaster that overwhelms the Emergency Services immediate response capabilities due to its size, complexity, or inaccessibility created by such an event.

COURSE CONTENT

The course consists of nine two-and-one-half hour classes for a total of 22.5 hours of classroom and “hands-on” instruction.

- Typical disasters
- Fire suppression
- Light search and rescue
- Emergency medical care / first aid
- CPR and use of an AED
- Psychology of Disaster
- CERT Organization
- Mock disaster drill

The Villages Public Safety Department
1231 Bonita Boulevard ~ The Villages, FL 32162

What Will I Learn?

Once you have received training, you will:

- ✓ Be better able to handle events that you will be exposed to that may have normally been overwhelming to you.
- ✓ Take steps to get to safety and/or help others in an organized manner.
- ✓ Recognize potential hazards resulting from an event and reduce injury or damage caused to others and the environment.
- ✓ Assume a leadership role with those who are not trained to deal with the event.
- ✓ Administer first aid and apply light search and rescue operations.
- ✓ Identify, organize and utilize available resources.
- ✓ Assist others with the emotional distress associated with major emergencies and disaster conditions.
- ✓ Perform needs assessments, documentation, and communication to local authorities.
- ✓ Allow better allocation of emergency resources by being more capable of observing and reporting the conditions of a situation and properly advising emergency responders.

If disaster strikes, will you be prepared?