

MONTEREY CERT NEWSLETTER

December 2019 *“Training And News For The Monterey COMMUNITY EMERGENCY RESPONSE TEAM”. A citizen based, volunteer emergency response team.*

Monterey CERT, open to everyone, is fully funded by the City of Monterey!

29 Citizens Graduate the Oct-Nov 2019 CERT Class! In a continued show of outstanding support and interest on the part of our community, 29 citizens graduated the Monterey CERT class that concluded November 3rd.

Seaside Fire Department is looking for volunteer drone pilots. The drone provides overhead views at many different emergencies. If you're interested, send us an email to: training@montereycert.org

52 CERT Members Participate In November 23rd Quarterly Drill! On Saturday, November 23rd, 52 CERT members participated in our quarterly drill. Members received an outstanding review and brief on our new Automatic Electronic Defibrillator (AED) from Firefighter/Paramedic Brendan Connolly. In addition, members learned new skills on back-boarding a standing patient. We also conducted review training on application of tourniquets and our safety procedures for winter response, particularly wires down procedures.



(Photos by CERT Instructor Isabelle Preti)



CERT members practice techniques to apply tourniquets at the November 23rd training. *(Photo by CERT member David Eisen)*

New CERT Class Starts February 22nd, 2020. Monterey CERT will be conducting our next class for new students over a three Saturday format on February 22nd, 29th and March 7th. Time each day will be 8:15 A.M. to 4:30 P.M. Interested persons may enroll by sending an email to: training@montereycert.org We will reply with full confirmation that has information on location, items to bring, preparations, etc. **Monterey CERT training is offered free of charge!**

Winter is upon us! Make sure you have your emergency supplies up to date and have sufficient for at least 10 days. Keep a “Grab and Go” kit in your garage or near the front door in case of sudden evacuation. DOCUMENT WITH PHOTOS every item in your home, no matter how small. Keep the photos on a thumb drive in a safety deposit box. This will allow you to prove to your insurance company what you are claiming after a fire. Attend the CERT quarterly drills to remain up to date! If it has been more than 5 years since you took the full CERT training. Enroll in the next class.

Preparedness Update: The U.S. Department of Agriculture makes [several recommendations](#) for saving frozen and refrigerated food:

- **Keep refrigerator doors closed.** Every time you open your refrigerator during a blackout, precious cold air will escape — and it will be replaced by warmer room-temperature air.
- **Remember to keep beef and poultry separated** in the freezer, such as on trays or in Tupperware, to prevent cross contamination of thawing juices.
- **A Fully-stocked freezer** will keep food frozen for **48 hours**. To extend the freezer life when the power fails, always keep some 2-liter plastic bottles with water in your freezer. The thick ice created inside the bottles will help extend the “Cold Life” of the freezer during power failures. Keep in mind, ice expands as it freezes, so leave some extra space in bottles when filling them with water.
- **Turn the thermostat controls down** to the lowest temperature settings. This can help everything stay colder, longer.
- **Keep SOME ready-to-eat foods that don’t require cooking or cooling**
- **Having a generator to power your refrigerator is an option, BUT there are several considerations. A refrigerator can draw 10-12 amps or more when the compressor motor kicks on, so your generator must have minimum 20-amp circuits and a recommended 5000 watts or more. ALSO, you need to supply power from the generator to the refrigerator with a heavy-duty cord as there is power loss in extension cords. A thin extension cord can ruin your refrigerator. A 10-gauge cord no longer than 50’ is often recommended, BUT first check with the refrigerator manufacturer.**
- **USE A GENERATOR IN A WELL-VENTILATED AREA. DO NOT RUN A GENERATOR INSIDE, EVEN IN YOUR GARAGE AS THE CARBON MONOXIDE EXHAUST CAN PENETRATE INTO YOUR HOUSE!**

Another note: you CAN’T get reimbursed from PG&E for any food spoilage resulting from the planned power outages. **PG&E’S POLICY IS:** “We do not reimburse customers for losses, as power will be shut off for safety when gusty winds and dry conditions, combined with a heightened fire risk, threaten a portion of the electric system.”

Police Background Checks Resuming



A Monterey CERT Call-Out Team Renders Aid To A Victim

We are resuming the Police background checks. This involves a fingerprinting and computer background check. If you wish to undergo the process, **the following stipulations apply:**

1. **You must have completed Monterey CERT training and be 18 or older. By participating in the background check process, you are making a commitment to be “On-Call” 24/7 to respond to call-outs when you’re able for storms, missing persons, coastal incidents, fires and other emergencies where CERT is requested. This is an important consideration as we have been called out several times this year**
2. You will **NOT receive a written report** on the outcome of your check, nor will one be available upon request. You will only be contacted if something in your past precludes you from being on the CERT emergency call-out group.
3. Even if you have undergone a recent background check with another agency, regardless of Federal, State or Local, you still **must undergo our check** to be on the call-out group.
4. The CERT budget is charged for these background checks, **you will not be charged.**
5. If you **do NOT** undergo the background check process, you will still receive monthly newsletters, be invited to our quarterly training and are welcome to help your neighborhood in a major event such as a serious storm, earthquake or other widespread emergency by responding to your neighborhood container. You will **NOT** receive CERT Alerts via phone, text or e-mail.

If you wish to be a part of the “Call-Out” group and undergo the Police Background process, send an email of interest to: training@montereycert.org

CERT Team Leader Contact List

TEAM	LAST NAME	FIRST NAME	E-MAIL
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CONA	Oak/Knoll	NM	New Monterey
Crml	Carmel	OG	Oak Grove
DMB	Del Monte Beach	OT	Old Town
DV	Dela Vina	PG	Pacific Grove
FH	Foothill	Sky	Skyline
MH	Monterey High		
MV	Monte Vista		

If you DO NOT LIVE in Monterey, contact Dela Vina if you are north of Monterey, contact Foothill if you are in Salinas or the 68 corridor. If you're in Pebble Beach and use the Hill gate, contact Skyline, if you use the PG gates, contact Pacific Grove. Carmel areas outside the City, contact Carmel.