



Monterey CERT

NEWSLETTER

February 2024 *“Training And News For The Monterey, CA COMMUNITY EMERGENCY RESPONSE TEAM”.*
A Monterey citizen volunteer emergency response team funded by the City of Monterey



42 CERT members assemble on On Saturday, January 13th for training. The Monterey CERT program held a Winter response skills training exercise for our members. 42 CERT members participated. With the onset of Winter, it is possible CERT members will be called upon to fill and deploy sandbags. We were honored to have the professional instruction services of the Janet Wohlgenuth, District Director for the Monterey Bay Center, California Conservation Corps. She provided very relevant instruction on how to safely handle sandbags using techniques that greatly protect back health & safety. CERT members filled over 100 bags and then successfully constructed a sandbag wall to divert a large amount of water. **Below: CERT members form a double line to move sandbags.**



[Visit the Monterey CERT FACEBOOK Page for more pictures & a video](#)



CERT volunteers learn a two-line method of efficiently moving sandbags that avoids twisting one's back.

Downloading our CERT Grid Maps To Your Phone: Our CERT member **Richard Ruh**, a member of the Carmel Valley neighborhood team, has devoted many hours to digitizing our CERT map system so it can be downloaded to your Android or Apple cell phone. This is a two-step process. First, you need to download the map app, then the maps themselves. Here are the two links for completing the process:

Getting the maps is a two step process.

1. First, if you don't have the ArcGIS Field Maps application loaded on your device, you need to get it:

FOR ANDROID: Here's a link to download Field Maps from Google Play :

<https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.esri.fieldmaps>

FOR iPhone and iOS: Here's a link to download Field Maps from the Apple App store:

<https://apps.apple.com/us/app/arcgis-field-maps/id1515671684>

2. Once you have Field Maps, you need to download the MRY_PEN_CERT map.

THESE DOWNLOAD METHODS ONLY WORK IF YOU HAVE COMPLETED STEP 1.

<https://fieldmaps.arcgis.app/?itemID=81eb676ec9fe4bcc8a39ad5c8a0a9f51&referenceContext=open&portalURL=https%3A%2F%2FRuh.maps.arcgis.com>

Visit the Monterey CERT FACEBOOK Page for pictures, videos and information on our deployments, events and training.

CERT Provides Traffic Control At Structure Fire. On Saturday, January 27th at 11:07 P.M. CERT was alerted to a structure fire in the 400 block of Del Rosa Avenue in Monterey, off North Fremont. Our main function was to relieve multiple police officers performing traffic control functions at the fire. CERT arrived quickly and immediately relieved two PD units, one at either end of Del Rosa Avenue. As this was a limited duty response, an Everbridge Alert was not initiated. The CERT radio system was used to alert a limited number of responders. CERT members remained on the scene until approximately 1:30 A.M. Sunday morning.



CERT Calendar of Events:

CERT ZOOM Training On Basic Incident Command System (ICS):

Tuesday, February 16th from 7 PM to 8 PM. We are honored to have former FEMA Worker and current CERT member Jeffrey Sloan to conduct this important training.

CERT Skills Training Event: Saturday, March 16th 0900-1200 noon.

Staging is the EOC, in the parking lot to the left of Monterey Fire Station 1 on Pacific Street. Address for GPS is 610 Pacific Street, Monterey

Next CERT Training For New Volunteers: April 6, 13 and 20th 2024. This is a three consecutive Saturday format. Training is free of charge. To enroll, email: training@montereycert.org

NATURAL GAS EXPLOSION VIDEO:

Below is a link to a short video showing a natural gas explosion in Washington, DC. NOTE: Several DC firefighters and one or more citizens came very close to being injured as they were in the immediate area when the explosion occurred. To their credit, firefighters initially responded to a report of a natural gas odor and immediately evacuated an adjacent childcare facility, saving the occupants from almost certain injury.

Natural gas leaks can occur during storms, natural disasters and other events that CERT members may potentially respond to. **ALWAYS BE AWARE OF YOUR SITUATION AND SURROUNDINGS!** In any natural gas leak event, **EVACUATE** (100 yards minimum), **ISOLATE, DENY ENTRY AND IMMEDIATELY CALL PG&E AND NOTIFY CERT COMMAND.** CERT'S FUNCTION IS TO ISOLATE AND DENY ENTRY.

[Moment powerful gas explosion flattens building in Washington DC \(bbc.com\)](https://www.bbc.com/news/health-56888888)

Remember: Maintain 100 yards distance from natural gas leaks

Training Refresher: What to Keep in Your CERT Backpack

Green helmet & yellow vest. This is the recognized CERT uniform and I.D.'s you to firefighters & law enforcement across the County.

Basic PPE. Medical & work gloves, eye protection and N-95 masks.

Basic tool(s): Crescent wrench or other tool to shut off utilities and break a window.

Small rolls of duct & caution tape.

Basic first-aid. 5" x 7" gauze pads, large band-aids, an elastic wrap & CAT tourniquet. Mylar blanket.

Lightweight flashlight, water



Keep heavier items in your car, ready for use. Your pack should not weigh more than 9 lbs. Carrying a heavy pack is very tiring.

For information on Winter preparedness, consult this FEMA website :[Get Ready for Winter Weather | FEMA.gov](https://www.fema.gov/get-ready-for-winter-weather)

Register your cell phone to receive emergency alerts from the County of Monterey at : [Monterey County Citizen Alert - Sign Up \(everbridge.net\)](https://www.everbridge.net/monterey-county-citizen-alert)

“CERT, Doing The Most Good For The Most People”

“Being part of a team. All for one and one for all”