Volunteers don't get paid …… that’s because they're priceless.

City Of Monterey Graduates Most Recent CERT Students!
On Saturday, March 20th, 17 community members graduated our most recent Monterey CERT training. This course covered the entire 24 hour FEMA CERT curriculum combining online ZOOM training with in-person skills based instruction. These outstanding volunteers, all from Monterey and Pacific Grove, will make an excellent addition to our emergency response capabilities! Funded by the City of Monterey, this was another instruction delivered by our superb instructor Isabelle Preti of EMS&MCI.com. See additional photos on pages 6 & 7.

The Monterey CERT graduating class of March 2021.

The next CERT training for new volunteers is tentatively scheduled for September, 2021. This class is open to residents of Monterey and neighboring communities. Interested persons email: training@monereycert.org
We Will Be Re-Programming ALL CERT Radios. The CERT radio repeater is now operational. The repeater greatly enhances our communications capability. We will need to reprogram all CERT radios, both those owned by the program and privately, to install the repeater channel. Please watch your email for notices on dates, times and procedures to bring in your personal CERT radios for the reprogramming.

On Saturday, March 6th Monterey County Sheriff’s Search & Rescue (SAR) Team provided us with an introduction and overview of their capabilities, response vehicle and equipment via live ZOOM presentation. Below, SAR volunteer member Fernando White introduces CERT members to one of three SAR response vehicles. SAR has extensive training and capabilities to perform a wide array of rescues across the Central Coast. Monterey CERT has worked with SAR on searches for missing persons in PG and Fort Ord.

CERT Refresher/Update Training To Continue. We will continue our delivery of ZOOM based update/refresher training. This instruction is to reinforce existing skills and knowledge, and introduce new areas of training. The next training will be a review of our basic skills such as securing utilities, building damage assessment, controlling severe bleeding, securing a victim to a backboard and more. Watch your email for notices on the next training that will be delivered via ZOOM.
CERT Teams Assist with Covid-19 Pandemic Vaccination Clinics in Monterey and Carmel. CERT was activated multiple times in March and on April 1st to assist with COVID19 vaccination clinics at the Monterey Conference Center and the Foundation in Carmel. Wearing their distinctive vests and using their CERT radios, members worked to keep traffic moving, directed people into the vaccination area, conducted temperature checks and monitored the post vaccine recovery area. Hundreds of Peninsula residents received vaccinations at these local clinics.

Above (Photo by CERT Member Jim Pagnella): CERT members receive a briefing on their responsibilities in assisting the vaccination clinics recently held at the Monterey Conference Center. 35 Monterey CERT members participated during the two clinics which were held March 31st and April 1st. The CERT trailer was deployed to provide radio communications, tools, shade tents, traffic cones and other tools. Monterey Fire Department paramedics administered the vaccinations.
CERT Members Attend Sheriff’s Search and Rescue Team (SAR) Drill. On March 13th, five Monterey CERT members attended a day long training exercise with the Monterey County Sheriff’s Search and Rescue Team (SAR). CERT members saw how SAR conducts a search in a rural area, starting with assessing clues to determine which direction a missing person may have traveled. Once located, the “victim” was placed in a Stokes Litter (Basket Stretcher) and moved to the Staging area using a wheeled device that carries the litter.

Participation in this drill gave CERT members first-hand knowledge on how SAR operates and will enhance our ability to work with SAR during urban searches. Monterey CERT has previously worked with SAR on missing person searches in PG and Fort Ord.
WE’RE NOT OUT OF THIS YET!

Stay safe! Remain prepared! Be ready to assist your communities! Practice good COVID-19 safety protocols: Wear a double mask that tightly covers your nose and mouth. Wash your hands frequently. Avoid interactions except with those you live with. We are making good progress, but this Pandemic is NOT PAST US YET!

**When responding to a CERT Alert**, please follow all our COVID-19 safety protocols including use of tight-fitting mask that covers both the nose and mouth, gloves and distancing. We will continue to conduct visual sign-in at Staging.

Emergency preparedness begins at home. If local and National history has taught us anything, it is that emergencies happen EVERYWHERE! In the past year, the Central Coast has experienced major fires, mud slides, floods, highways closed from storm related damage and more. We must all be prepared. Consult the FEMA site:

**Ready.gov** for help in assembling long term emergency supplies
Photos From March 2021 CERT Class