

CERT NEWSLETTER



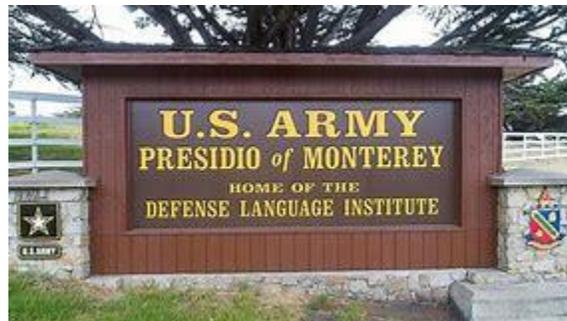
May 2019, “Training And News For The Monterey **COMMUNITY EMERGENCY RESPONSE TEAM**”. A citizen based, volunteer emergency response team!
CERT Operations and Training are paid for by the City Of Monterey.

Prepare As If Your Life Depends Upon It, Because It Does!

CERT Members Respond to Search For Missing, At-Risk

Male. On Friday, April 5th at **4:16 A.M.** CERT received an Everbridge Alert to deploy to a search for an adult, at-risk male subject missing in the Skyline Forest area. Fifteen CERT members initially responded to the request. The trailer was deployed to 1501 Skyline Drive, a convalescent facility, to serve as Operations and Staging. Teams conducted search operations in the area. The search was suspended at 5:15 A.M. when the subject was located. Additional CERT response was cancelled at that time. This is another outstanding effort by our volunteers who are ready to respond regardless of time, weather conditions or type of request!

15 CERT Members Spontaneously Respond To Presidio of Monterey (DLI) Evacuation Drill.



On Saturday, April 13th at **8:36 A.M.** Monterey CERT received a **previously unannounced alert** request to provide members to assist in the DLI Evacuation Exercise. As always, CERT responded and provided sufficient members to provide organization, traffic control and assistance all along the evacuation route from the DLI Pine Street Gate to the High Street Gate. CERT also supported the members and Federal Police with water and Gatorade during the 3 hours of the event.

CERT ALERT UPDATE

We have now learned that CERT Alerts can be sent from the numbers **555 555-5555 OR 831 796-1908**. Please put **BOTH** these numbers into the contacts on your phone and identify it as CERT Alert so you know you're not receiving a spam call. I also recommend assigning a different ring tone to the CERT Alert contact so you will immediately know you're receiving an alert. You will receive phone, text and email messages.

If you have completed the CERT training but are not yet a part of the Emergency Call-out group and wish to join, we will be resuming the Police background process when the new fiscal year begins July 1st. Monitor your monthly CERT newsletters for updates.



Please remember, joining the call-out group and undergoing the PD background process means you are making the commitment to respond to CERT Alerts wherever you are able. We thank everyone who has already made this incredible commitment for our community!

TRAINING REFRESHER: CERT Hand-Held Radios

Monterey CERT has an advanced radio system. A key component in this system is our many hand-held radios. These radios allow CERT to maintain communications in any location regardless of the scope or type of emergency. It is vital that every CERT volunteer is very familiar with the use of the radios. Our hand-held radios have **two basic configurations**, with a screen (left) and without a screen (right).



Both radio designs have two knobs on the top. As seen above, the right knob is the on/off and volume control. The middle knob is the channel control. The antenna is on the left. Antennas appear in 3 basic configurations. We have the solid “rubber-duck” antenna, a standard metal antenna and the high-gain metal antenna. While all three types work, the high-gain **15”** antenna is far superior to the other types.

CERT has 3 different radio channels (middle knob) licensed to us by the Federal Communications Commission (FCC). These are programmed into your radio in the channel 1, 2 and 3 positions on the radio. Both types of radio will “speak” when selecting a channel. You will hear a verbal announcement stating one, two, three, etc. This is an easy way to assure you are on the correct channel. **REMEMBER: ALWAYS KNOW WHAT CERT CHANNEL YOU WILL USING BEFORE LEAVING YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD CONTAINER OR STAGING.** In addition to the three CERT channels, we also have programmed 5 public Multi-Use Radio System (MURS) channels into the radios. The MURS channels are in positions 11-15 in the radios. These are short distance, public use radio channels available to anyone. The

MURS channels can be used when a CERT team is operating in close proximity and needs a separate channel for communications, such as when searching a building or directing traffic.

On radios with a screen (left photo above), you can be listening to transmissions on two channels at the same time. **This is confusing. It is best to have only ONE channel showing.** You should “clear” the lower channel by pushing the green “TDR” button. To switch to the proper channel, i.e. CERT Tac 1, simply move the center knob until you are on the desired channel. Once on the desired CERT channel, depress and hold the button on the lower right marked “EX”. This will lock-out the buttons on the radio, but still allow you to use the center knob to change channels if you need to.

There are 3 buttons on the left side of the radio. The top button is your transmit button. Remember, our radios are **NOT** like a cell phone in that you must push the transmit button to speak and release the button to hear a transmission. To transmit (speak), push the button **WAIT FOR 1 SECOND** and then while continuing to push the top button, state your message. When finished with your message, release the button.

The middle button on the left side of the radio is your scan button. Depress this button to activate the scan function. The radio voice will announce “Scan Begin” or “Scan Stop. The scan function allows you to listen to all channels on the radio at once. This is also VERY confusing. **When using a radio, stay on your assigned channel and assure the radio is in the “Scan Stop” position.**

The lower of the three buttons on the left of the radio operates the radio flashlight. This drains power so use it sparingly.



Our radios can also function with a back-up “AA” battery pack, shown above. These require 5 “AA” batteries. Our CERT containers have these battery packs and a supply of “AA” batteries. Using the “AA” packs takes practice. Contact your team leader for instruction.

If it has been more than 10 years since you participated in our emergency training, please enroll in the next CERT class. Our old, previous **NERT certification is no longer recognized by the City of Monterey.**

Next CERT Class For New Students Occurs October 19th, 26th and November 2nd 2019. This is our weekend series, taught over three consecutive Saturdays. Class time each day is 8:30 A.M. to 4:30 P.M. Attendance at all three days is required to graduate. All classes are taught in Monterey. **Anyone** may enroll by sending an e-mail of interest to: training@montereycert.org You will receive a confirmation with class location and details. Students under the age of 16 must be accompanied by an adult.

Angel, the CERT & Rescue Dog Reminds You:



Prior to a disaster create a family emergency plan that includes your pet(s). It is very important to:

- Make sure each pet's tags are up-to-date and fastened to its collar.
- Have a current photo of you and your pet(s) for identification purposes.
- Make a pet emergency kit.
- Identify shelters in advance that will allow your pets.
- Have a secure pet carrier, leash, or harness for your pet.

For more tips on how to prepare your kit, Ready.gov has a section with more information: [Caring for Animals](#).