

CERT NEWSLETTER

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

“Some people wonder all their lives if they’ve ever made a difference. CERT volunteers don’t have that problem”.

City of Monterey Allocates \$20,000 to CERT Budget For

2019-20 Fiscal Year! The Monterey City Council, reflecting the enormous community support for CERT, continues to fully fund CERT and approved \$20,000 for our program in the City’s 2019-20 fiscal year budget. This funding is a continuation of the support the City has shown CERT for many years. All CERT funding goes to continue our training program, acquire tools & equipment and will fund significant improvements in our radio system. No salaries or instructors are paid. We thank the City Council for making policy decisions to support CERT and all the citizens of Monterey for funding this program.

40 CERT Members Participate In Search & Rescue Drill.

On Sunday, July 28th 40 CERT members participated in a search & rescue (SAR) drill at the CONA Community Center. SAR is now an important CERT role and we have been activated three times this year to search for missing persons.



CERT drill Incident Commander (IC) Isabelle Preti briefs search teams



CERT members conducting search and rescue during the July 28th drill
Photos by CERT member Thor Rasmussen

CERT Members Respond To Another Missing Man Search.

On June 29th, Monterey CERT received a request from the Police Department to search for a missing, at risk male who had disappeared from an assisted living facility in New Monterey. The Everbridge Alert System was activated at 11:55 A.M. Monterey Police had information the man frequented the Recreation Trail areas. 25 CERT members responded to Base at the EOC and were then dispatched to search the Recreation Trail from David Avenue to Robert's Lake. New Monterey from Lighthouse to Cannery Row and the DLI-Presidio were also searched by CERT members. The search was later expanded to areas in Pacific Grove along the Recreation Trails. CERT members continued search operations until 4 P.M. The subject was located several days later at an out-of-State location.

The subject of another search earlier in June was found to be deceased at a location in the Bay Area.

CERT Across America: Fresno CERT Deploys And Locates a Missing, At Risk Elderly Woman.

Fresno CERT deploys most frequently in response to Fresno Fire Department's request for on-scene support at major fires and hazmat incidents. Since the team received *CERT1*, their donated response vehicle, **Fresno CERT has been activated 149 times** to enhance first responder safety through rapid firefighter rehabilitation and heat illness prevention. **The 150th call was different.**

Since the Fresno Police Department's (FPD) Missing Persons Unit established its "Child Abduction Response Team," the local CERT has been a member/partner.

On Sunday, July 21, **Fresno CERT volunteers were requested by FPD to assist in the search for 81-year old woman** who has dementia and diabetes and had walked away from a family home early in the morning on Saturday.

Working with FPD, CERT set up a command post and **deployed teams with radios** to conduct a ground search along the San Joaquin River, while FPD searched with a drone overhead. CERT located two witnesses who had seen the woman on Saturday, but were unaware that she was a missing person. The witnesses led the team to her last known location, where CERT Instructor Martin Wendels and his K9 Max were searching for the second day. (Martin and Max were recently inducted into the AVMA Hall of Fame for their search work locally, in Butte County and throughout California.) In a relatively short time, the missing woman was located at the bottom of an embankment near the water's edge, disoriented and lodged in overgrowth, having been missing for 31 hours. The subject was transported to a hospital where she was evaluated and reunited with her family that evening.

CERT programs all across America are supporting their communities in ways well beyond disaster preparedness and response!

The next CERT 3-day training for new members takes place over 3 consecutive Saturdays: Classes occur on October 19th, October 26th and November 2nd 2019.

Class time each day is 8:20 A.M. to 4:30 P.M.

All Monterey CERT classes for new students are taught in downtown 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. CERT training is offered at no charge.

Safety Alert: Spontaneous Combustion. “*Spontaneous combustion is the outbreak of fire without application of heat from an external source.*”

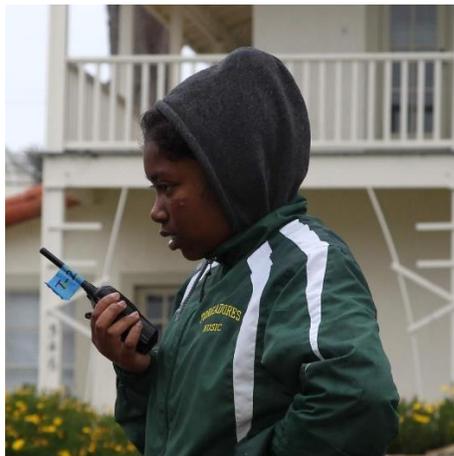
Spontaneous [combustion](#) may occur when combustible matter, such as oil soaked rags, [hay](#) or [coal](#), is stored. It begins with a slow [oxidation](#) process (as bacterial [fermentation](#) or atmospheric oxidation) under conditions not permitting ready dissipation of heat—*e.g.*, in the center of a haystack or **a pile of oily rags**.

Oxidation gradually raises the temperature inside the mass to the point at which a fire starts. Crops are commonly dried before storage or, during storage, by forced circulation of air, to prevent spontaneous combustion by inhibiting fermentation.

Any time you use rags or any material with oils, particularly plant based oils such as linseed, these must be thoroughly laundered **immediately** or stored in an enclosed metal container as they can catch fire from spontaneous combustion.

CERT Radio Drills Occur The Second Monday of Each

Month at 7 P.M. Communications are vital to our team operations and safety. Participate in our radios drills to strengthen your skills. If you do not have a CERT radio, contact your team leader to borrow one during these monthly drills. **Tune in to CERT channel 3 to participate.**



Sit Down With Your Family. Make a plan, have supplies, know what to do. **Have alternative meeting locations** to assemble when you cannot get home in a disaster. **Have sufficient food and water** for at least 30 days, or whatever you can store. History shows us the old 72-hour rule is totally insufficient. Know when and **how to secure your utilities**. Have emergency

medical training. Know rescue techniques. Maintain a fire extinguisher, radio and first-aid kit. **IF IT HAS BEEN MORE THAN FIVE YEARS SINCE YOU'VE TAKEN A CERT CLASS, YOU NEED TO REFRESH YOUR SKILLS AND TAKE CERT AGAIN!**

CERT Team Leader List

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Additional photos from July 28th drill. Photos by CERT member Thor Rasmussen