



Ready Neighbor News

www.ashlandcert.org

March 2021
Neighbors Helping Neighbors...

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Next Meeting Dates:

General Meeting:
March 16 - Remote Topic:
 Fire Ecology w/ OSU.
 Meeting starts at 6pm with
 open conversation at 5:30.

Leadership Meeting:
 March 24 - Remote Topic:
 Post-Fire Science w/ ODF.
 Meeting starts at 6pm with
 open conversation at 5:30.



Meet the Program Coordinator

Ashland's Community Emergency Response Team Program Coordinator: Terri Stewart (previously Eubanks) transferred from Southern Vermont College more than a decade and a half ago, and became an Oregon transplant.

Terri Stewart served a 10-month AmeriCorps term with Ashland Fire & Rescue before accepting the CERT Program Coordinator position in 2011. Terri holds a Bachelor of Science and Master of Teaching degree from Southern Oregon University where she also received the Alumni Ambassador Award in 2016 for her outstanding work in the community. Concurrently, she serves as an Adjunct Instructor for SOU in their Outdoor Adventure Leadership program.

In addition to holding a Preliminary Teaching license through the Teacher Standards and Practices Commission, she completed the Emergency Management Institute's Emergency Management Professional Development series where she received a certificate of achievement for her commitment to standards of excellence in emergency management practices.



Under her guidance, the CERT program has expanded to 125 actively engaged volunteers serving an average of more than 2,785 hours annually training and responding to disasters. She makes sure volunteers are fully prepared to serve the community when disaster strikes by coordinating and delivering ongoing training, leadership development opportunities and effective communications.

Terri has successfully obtained over \$91,000 in grant funding for the Ashland CERT and CPR programs including Homeland Security Grant funding and Chaney Foundation funding. She continues to pursue public-private partnerships to support unmet equipment and training needs within the current operating budget.

She championed a sixth emergency supplies Base in Talent further expanding a true whole-community approach to preparedness. She hopes to extend the program further in the future when budget constraints allow for her return to full-time status.

In her free time, Terri serves as the President of the Rogue Valley Hang-gliding and Paragliding Association, Applegate Open Event Coordinator, and tireless adventure sports seeker while filling her days spending time with family.

Ashland CERTs Organizational Structure

Are you interested in learning more about CERT or participating in the citizen preparedness training? The Ashland CERT program has a well-defined organization that makes joining the team easy to understand. Citizens can participate in basic training without commitment to join; though are welcomed to become volunteers after completion.

Ashland's program makes it easy for you to participate in community preparedness whether you are seeking to simply learn how to be prepared at home or wanting to volunteer in your community. Ashland CERT has something for everyone. Our operating system defines four tiers of membership including:

Level 1 - Management Team

Management Team members are individuals with a willingness to be involved with the most active aspects of the emergency response team and have committed to obtain advanced training and skills to be available during emergencies. They have demonstrated knowledge and use of the Incident Command System (ICS) in actual events, as well as active participation in the operation and direction of the organization. They lead by example, step up for duty in trainings, simulations, and other activities directly related to creating and maintaining a quality program. They are unpaid professionals with practical knowledge and experience who fulfill primary leadership roles as qualified ICS leaders. They are capable leaders who can learn to perform the duty officer role and responsibilities, although they are not required to do so.

Level 2 - Leadership Team

These are CERT-trained core members – individuals who attend general monthly and leadership meetings regularly and assume responsibility by participating in program or incident roles such as base management, phone tree, or Map Your Neighborhood (MYN). They have demonstrated desirable leadership qualities and knowledge of CERT leadership methods and procedures. They know the accountability, safety, documentation, and communications protocols and follow through to complete assignments. Leadership Team members could lead their own neighborhoods during a disaster and may become emergency incident team leaders, although there is no requirement to accept field assignments in this role.

Level 3 - Active Members

Active members have completed the CERT Basic Training, want to be part of Ashland CERT and have completed the additional requirements. They are interested in working with CERT teams and respond to disasters when possible.

Level 4 - Spontaneous Volunteers

CERT Basic Training graduates who do not meet Level 3 requirements are considered spontaneous volunteers, even if they have completed CERT training, were previously active members or leaders, or have not attended at least two CERT functions in the past year, or whose interest is primarily in assisting their immediate family, friends, and co-workers in the event of an emergency are Level 4 members. They will not be called or asked to respond to an incident, but are welcome to volunteer for deployment if additional volunteers are needed. All spontaneous volunteers must provide identification, sign a waiver, complete an intake process to determine incident-relevant skills and verify that they have the personal protective equipment necessary for the particular response. They may be assigned to the staging area for deployment or put into on-call status. They may be tracked and scheduled in case their skills are needed at a later time. People at this level will be paired with active members and will not be given leadership responsibility without being accompanied by the active member / leader. For the duration of their deployment, they will be issued personal protection equipment which may include a helmet and vest when available.



Where do you fit in?

Join us for Basic Training this spring to find out!

Learn more at: AshlandCERT.org

Ashland CERT Basic Training—Registration Open

COMMUNITY EMERGENCY RESPONSE TEAM (CERT) TRAINING

Ashland CERT is offering Community Emergency Response Team training. Upon completion of this course, you will be able to perform basic disaster responses such as small fire suppression, search and rescue, and disaster medical operations. When disasters occur, you will know how to respond by being prepared to give critical support to your family, friends, neighborhood, and professional responders.



Teamwork & Leadership Skills



For more information or to register: www.ashlandcert.org and download the registration form. You can also contact Ashland CERT: 541-552-2226 | cert@ashland.or.us



TRAINING CURRICULUM

- Disaster Preparedness
- Fire Safety & Suppression
- Radio Communications
- Disaster Medical Operations
- Urban Search and Rescue
- CERT Organization & ICS
- Disaster Psychology
- Terrorism Awareness
- Real-life Simulated Disaster
- *Lecture & Hands-on*

FREE FREE FREE FREE FREE FREE

- Thursday, April 22 ~ 5:30 - 8:30 pm
- Friday, April 23 ~ 5:30 - 8:30 pm
- Saturday, April 24 ~ 8:00 am - 5:00 pm
- Thursday, May 6 ~ 5:30 - 8:30 pm
- Friday, May 7 ~ 5:30 - 8:30 pm
- Saturday, May 8 ~ 8:00 am - 5:00 pm

Spring training dates are fast approaching and registrations are being accepted. Forms are available on our website. After completing the IS-317 prerequisite, simply download the form, fill it out and sign, and then mail it in or scan back through the email address provided on the form.

Basic training instructs on the foundations of emergency preparedness by teaching citizens the FEMA tenets of preparedness. Classroom based learning uses visual presentations and films along with group activities. In-person sessions allows for hands-on training opportunities as well.

Spring session will be delivered completely online this spring due to the continued COVID-19 pandemic. Participants will need reliable access to the internet and the Zoom platform. Sessions will be delivered through Zoom.

NOTE: Due to Wildfire Forum, our general meeting will shift to Tuesday, March 16 **

More information will be sent via email.

Ashland City Council Wildfire Forum

The Almeda Fire was a traumatic event that destroyed lives, homes, and businesses and left our valley shaken. Lessons learned from the Almeda Fire will help shape the City's response to emergencies in the future and better define areas of vulnerability. It is not enough to know what did not work as expected; this event must become a springboard to creating a more resilient community that can withstand and recover more quickly from disaster by implementing operational, structural, and policy changes.

As a result, the Ashland City Council will hold an Almeda Wildfire Forum on Wednesday, March 10 at 6 p.m. via Zoom. The forum will include highlights from the Community Survey conducted after the Almeda Fire, a live Q&A with the City Council and staff, top takeaways on what the City is doing to improve our emergency response, and action steps you can take to be ready for fire season.

Those interested in attending may log in through Zoom using this link <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83627211688?pwd=WmRTQ3NRdVVGdjlWQExnSkhYS2N4QT09> or by using Webinar ID: 836 2721 1688 and Passcode: 003584. This forum will also be recorded and uploaded on the City website.



MARCH 10, 2021 WILDFIRE FORUM

6:00 PM – 8:00 PM - Live Zoom Meeting

Access the meeting through Zoom by using Webinar ID: 836 2721 1688 Passcode: 003584

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AGENDA:

Highlights from the Community Survey conducted after the Almeda Fire

Public Forum Q & A

Top Takeaways What the City is doing to Improve our emergency response

Action Steps you can take to be ready for fire season

CITY OF ASHLAND
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CERT 2021 Calendar of Events

January 2021	February 2021	March 2021
General Meeting - January 13 <i>(Points of Distribution)</i> Leadership Meeting - January 27 <i>(Media & Briefing Skills)</i>	General Meeting - February 10 <i>(ShakeAlert)</i> Natural Disaster Awareness for Community Leaders - February 13 Leadership Meeting - February 24 <i>(ODOT Bridge Inspections)</i>	General Meeting - March 16 <i>(Fire Ecology)</i> Leadership Meeting - March 24 <i>(ODF - Post-Fire Science)</i> Refresher - March 27
April 2021	May 2021	June 2021
General Meeting – April 14 <i>(PermiCulture for Disasters)</i> Basic Training - April 22, 23, 24 Leadership Meeting - April 28 <i>(CERT Basic Planning)</i>	Basic Training - May 6, 7, 8 Basic Graduation – May 12 Leadership Meeting - May 26 <i>(Basic After-Action-Review)</i>	Leadership Training Retreat - June 11-13 General Meeting - June 9 <i>(Radio Skills)</i> Leadership Meeting - June 23 <i>(Parade Event Planning)</i>
July 2021	August 2021	September 2021
Parade Support – July 4 General Meeting - July 14 <i>(Base Tours)</i> Leadership Meeting - July 28 <i>(Parade AAR)</i>	General Meeting - August 11 <i>(Go-Bags Emergency Preparedness)</i> Leadership Meeting - August 25 <i>(CERT Skills)</i>	General Meeting – Sept. 8 <i>(CERT Skills)</i> Team Leadership - Sept. 11 Leadership Meeting - September 22 <i>(Basic Training Planning)</i>
October 2021	November 2021	December 2021
Basic Training - October 21, 22, 23 Jackson County Fire District 5 Open House Leadership Meeting - October 28 <i>(Basic After-Action-Review)</i>	Basic Training – Nov. 4, 5, 6 Basic Graduation – Tuesday, November 10 Leadership Meeting – Tuesday, November 17 <i>(Annual Training Planning Session)</i>	CERT Appreciation Night December 8 - 5:30 to 8:30 PM Holiday Season ~ Training Stand Down

Note: ****Calendar items may be modified and are subject to cancellation. ****

Ashland CERT
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 Ashland, OR 97520

TO: