

# WEBSTER COUNTY CERT News *Quarterly*

Webster County, Missouri



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This newsletter is intended to provide Webster County CERT members with current news and information and is not intended for public distribution.



## Serve Your County This 4th of July

As Americans consume hot dogs and apple pie and watch fireworks this 4th of July, CERT members have the chance to show their patriotism by serving at one of three community celebrations.

CERT has been asked to assist with first aid at the Marshfield and Fordland celebrations on July 4th and the Rogersville celebration on June 27th.

Members are encouraged to sign up for at least one three-hour shift at one of the locations. The Marshfield shifts will run 9:00 am to noon, noon to 3:00 pm and 3:00 pm to 6:00 pm. The Fordland shifts will run 4:00 pm to 7:00 pm and 7:00 pm to 10:00 pm. The Rogersville shifts run 11:00 am—

2:00 pm, 2:00 pm—5:00 pm and 5:00 pm—8:00 pm.

This will be an excellent opportunity to help fill a community need, gain experience and get exposure for the CERT program. We will also utilize it as a test of the following CERT response activities—

- communication between EOC and field locations,
- documentation utilizing CERT forms,
- National Incident Management Structure,
- coordination with Webster County ARES, and
- coordination of manpower and resources at multiple locations.

Call Jaci today at 417-241-8554 to sign up for a shift. ■

## New Team Members

Despite a tornado warning during their first class session, this group of trainees completed the basic CERT training in Marshfield on May 21.

Tim H. and Billy B. will join Team 1 (Marshfield). Charlie H. will join Team 3 (Seymour), and David J., Beverly J., and Rebecca W. will join Team 6 (Marshfield East/Niangua).

Please join me in welcoming them to the Webster County CERT Team. ■



Left to right. Back row: Charlie, David, Tim  
Front row: Rebecca, Billy, Beverly

## Quarterly Update . . .

The April CERT quarterly meeting was held at the 9-1-1 Center in Marshfield.

Members attended a training to learn how to start, run and maintain a generator. The Webster County Health Unit has outfitted several locations around the county with generators in case those locations are needed for shelters or point of dispensing sites. CERT members may be called on to assist with generator care.

Jaci provided the group with a briefing on the H1N1 influenza outbreak currently going on worldwide. The virus has caused thousands of illnesses in the United States, but so far the majority of the cases have been mild. This is a brand new strain of virus, so we have no immunity to it. There is no vaccine currently for this virus, and developing one would take approximately 6 months. The virus is currently being treated successfully with two antibiotics. Health officials encourage community members to protect themselves by staying informed, washing their hands frequently with soap and water and keeping a distance from people who are sick. People who are sick with flu-like symptoms like headache, fever, body aches, tiredness, runny or stuffy nose, nausea, vomiting or diarrhea are encouraged to stay home.

CERT members expressed they would like to have more updates on issues like this from Jaci via email.

The group reviewed the CERT call down exercise drill. Jaci said most of the objectives were met but not everyone called in, even to say they couldn't activate. The group agreed more call down drills would be helpful. Also, the group suggested providing small contact cards to the branch leaders to keep with their ID badges. Jaci and Billy will work on that project.

(Quarterly Update: continued from page 1)

Jaci reviewed the call down tree drill, held March 20, 2009. She said almost all objectives were met satisfactorily. Areas that still need improvement are encouraging each member to call in and let the trainer know if they can participate or not; providing branch leaders with a compact way to keep numbers handy; identifying one more branch leader; keeping the message simple and then referring members on to the CERT information line for details; providing more training for branch leaders.

Jaci reviewed the team divisions and introduced three new team members. She also reviewed the staging areas. This information can be found on the CERT website at [www.webstercert.org](http://www.webstercert.org) in the members section (center of the page under the photos).

The CERT information line is installed and the answering machine purchased. Jaci will notify team members when it is operational. This line will be used for providing outgoing messages to CERT members on what to do and where to go in order to respond to a disaster.

Jaci reviewed the three most recent activations. After action summaries will be posted on the website in the members section.

- Marshfield Easter Egg Hunt (5 responded) – assisted with first aid and crowd control
- Niangua Storm Shelter Open House (2 responded) – assisted with parking and traffic control
- Seymour Fire Station Open House (1 attended) – provided information on the CERT program

Jaci briefly discussed the draft training calendar. She is attempting to offer one in training in the county each month. Additional training is offered online. See the CERT website for suggested courses.

A training and participation tracking form will be completed and posted on the website for members to download, fill out and turn in to the Trainer for credit. If a certificate was issued for a course, please attach a photocopy of it to the training/participation form.

Jaci asked for assistance in planning a CERT Celebration day this fall to provide training, participation hours, sponsorship opportunities and recognition for CERT members. Anyone interested in assisting in the planning should contact Jaci at 417-241-8554.

The next quarterly meeting will be held July 27, 2009 at 7:00 pm. The location will be posted on the website when confirmed. ■

New ID cards will be printed for all CERT members at the next quarterly meeting, July 27th. All old ID cards will automatically be deactivated on July 27th and should be turned in at the meeting. New cards will utilize data previously submitted, as well as new information, including team number, staging area and contact information for the CERT Trainer. Members will have the option to retake their photo. **It is very important that you contact Jaci if you cannot attend the meeting.**

Webster County CERT

A program of the Webster County Citizen Corps Council

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## Coming Trainings and Opps

**CERT—July 11 and 18th (8:00 am—5:00 pm)**  
*Webster County Courthouse, 3rd Floor*

This basic level CERT course teaches emergency preparedness, basic first aid, small fire suppression and search and rescue. Earn CERT level 1 by completing this course and passing a background check.

**INCENTIVES** — Earn CERT Level 2 by completing 15 hours of participation and 16 hours of training. Members who achieve Level 2 will receive a CERT patch and a CERT field guide.

**Hazardous Materials Operations—July/August**  
*Southern Webster Fire Station 2, Seymour*

Learn how to respond to, identify and contain a hazardous materials spill. Must have already taken hazardous materials awareness. Registration required by calling Jaci at 241-8554. \$10.00 registration fee is refunded on completion of three-day class.

**Ham Radio Classes—August 22, 23**  
*Laclede County Office of Emergency Management  
2nd and Adams, Lebanon*

Class is free. Book is \$24.95. Registration required by calling Jonathan Ayres at 417-532-6992.

## Ham Radio Field Day

ARES, or Amateur Radio Emergency Services, members will be participating in a field day exercise on June 27th and 28th.

The exercise tests their ability to set up equipment in a remote location and transmit critical messages for hours, just as they might be called to do in an actual disaster response when communication infrastructure is impacted.

Teams earn points for the number of messages transmitted, for media attention and for other things.

Stop by the grassy area between Radio Shack and the WalMart Supercenter in Marshfield June 27th or 28th to show them your support.

CERT members interested in earning a Ham radio license should contact Jaci at 417-241-8554. ■

