

CERT New Member Welcome



You are receiving this email because you are a member of the West Tennessee CERT Team, To unsubscribe, hit reply and type STOP and I will personally delete you from the list.

Thank you, and I look forward to your feedback on this month's newsletter.

Thank you for stopping by our booth...

Thank you so much for stopping by our CERT booth at Munford Celebrate! We are excited to welcome you as a new member of our Community Emergency Response Team (CERT). Your involvement is invaluable in helping us build a stronger, safer, and more prepared community.

We would also like to invite you to our upcoming CERT training sessions, where you'll learn essential skills in disaster response, first aid, fire safety, and more. The training is not only informative but also a great opportunity to connect with fellow members and make a real difference.

Please feel free to reach out if you have any questions. We look forward to seeing you at training and working together to keep our community safe!

Warm regards,

Darren Smith

Tennessee Constable - Tipton County

Upcoming CERT Training

CERT Winter Storms

- Mon, October 28, 6:30pm – 9:00pm
- Atoka City Hall, 334 Atoka-Munford Rd, Atoka, TN 38004

CERT Basic

- Two sessions
 - Saturday, November 9, 8:30am – 5:30pm
 - Saturday, November 23, 8:30am – 5:30pm
- Atoka City Hall, 334 Atoka-Munford Rd, Atoka, TN 38004

CERT Basic Training is vital because it equips community members with essential skills to respond effectively in emergency situations. The training covers disaster preparedness, basic medical care, fire safety, search and rescue operations, and team organization. By completing CERT training, individuals gain the knowledge and confidence to assist first responders, support their neighbors, and increase the resilience of their community during disasters. It offers not only life-saving techniques but also the ability to make a meaningful difference when professional help may be delayed.

The most up-to-date information is located on the CERT program calendar. You can subscribe to this calendar and get alerts on your phone. Click the link below for more details. Please join us!



Photo: CERT volunteers at Celebrate Munford 2024. (From L to R): Tony Warhurst, Robert Govero (Vice President), Marcella Harris (Secretary), Paul Buhrmester.

What does CERT do?

CERT (Community Emergency Response Team) is a program that educates volunteers about disaster preparedness for the hazards that may impact their area. It also provides training in basic disaster response skills, such as fire safety, light search and rescue, team organization, and disaster medical operations.

Key Talking Points About CERT:

1. Disaster Preparedness - CERT members learn how to prepare for potential disasters specific to their communities, ensuring they can protect themselves and help others during emergencies.
2. Support to First Responders - CERT volunteers can support local emergency services by providing immediate assistance to victims and managing hazards in their neighborhoods when professional responders are delayed.
3. Increased Community Resilience - By having trained volunteers spread throughout a community, CERT helps create a more resilient population capable of responding to a variety of emergencies before, during, and after the arrival of professional first responders.
4. Basic Response Skills - Volunteers learn skills such as first aid, fire suppression, and search and rescue, enabling them to assist in times of crisis and reduce the demand on professional emergency responders.

5. Community Involvement and Engagement - CERT promotes community cooperation and engagement, fostering a spirit of volunteerism. It brings people together and builds stronger, more connected neighborhoods that are better equipped to handle emergencies.
6. Leadership and Coordination - CERT provides a structure that allows for organized disaster response efforts, enabling community members to take on leadership roles and manage small groups of volunteers during times of need.

In summary, the CERT program helps communities become more self-reliant during disasters and emergencies, allowing residents to help themselves and others until professional help arrives. It's about taking care of each other!



Photo: Doug Justice and Marcella Harris (Seated) with Constables Osborn and Smith at the Atoka BBQ Festival in 2024.

Stay Informed & Get Connected

For the latest updates on community safety, crime prevention tips, and local events, we encourage you to visit the Tipton Constables Facebook page. Stay informed about the efforts of our dedicated law enforcement officers as they work tirelessly to keep our community safe. By following the page, you'll gain access to valuable information, timely alerts, and opportunities to engage with your local constables. Join the Tipton Constables Facebook community today and be an active participant in fostering a safer, more connected neighborhood. Your involvement makes a difference!



Photo: Constable Fisher at Munford Celebrate 2023 discussing Crime Prevention at the CERT booth.

What Should New Members Know?

New CERT members should understand that the Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) is a volunteer-based program that empowers community members to assist in emergency situations. Here are key things they should know:

- **Training and Skills:** CERT members receive training in disaster preparedness, fire safety, basic medical care, light search and rescue, and team organization. These skills allow members to help their families, neighbors, and first responders during emergencies.
- **Role in Emergencies:** During a disaster, CERT members may be called upon to provide support when professional responders are delayed or overwhelmed. They help by providing immediate assistance to victims, organizing volunteers, and supporting the overall emergency response.
- **Commitment to Safety:** CERT prioritizes the safety of its volunteers. Members are trained to assess situations and assist within the scope of their training, ensuring they do not put themselves in danger.
- **Ongoing Involvement:** Beyond the initial Basic Training, CERT offers additional training opportunities and community service activities. Participation in these can help members maintain their skills and stay prepared for future emergencies.
- **Community Impact:** CERT plays a vital role in strengthening community resilience by fostering preparedness and encouraging neighbors to help one another during times of need.

New members should stay engaged, continue learning, and be ready to contribute when the community needs them most.

The Importance of CERT Basic Training

In times of disaster or emergency, first responders such as firefighters, paramedics, and police officers are often overwhelmed with calls for assistance. That's where Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) Basic Training comes in. This vital program empowers everyday citizens with the skills and knowledge they need to support emergency services and help their communities during critical times when professional help might be delayed.

What is CERT Basic Training? CERT Basic Training is an intensive course designed to prepare individuals to handle a variety of emergencies. Participants are trained in essential life-saving skills such as disaster preparedness, basic first aid, fire safety, light search and rescue, and team organization. This foundational training equips members to assist in emergencies, both large and small, ranging from natural disasters like earthquakes and floods to local incidents such as house fires or severe storms.

What Does CERT Basic Training Offer? The CERT training course covers several critical areas:

1. Disaster Preparedness: Participants learn how to prepare themselves, their families, and their communities for various types of hazards. This includes understanding local risks, creating emergency plans, and knowing how to respond before, during, and after a disaster strikes.
2. Fire Safety: Trainees are taught how to identify and manage small fires using fire extinguishers and how to safely evacuate buildings. Knowing how to react to fire hazards can help prevent injuries and reduce property damage.
3. Basic Medical Operations: CERT members learn how to perform basic medical tasks, including triaging victims, providing first aid for minor injuries, and treating life-threatening conditions like severe bleeding or shock. These skills can save lives when medical professionals are delayed or inaccessible.
4. Search and Rescue Operations: The program teaches participants how to safely conduct light search and rescue operations in damaged buildings or hazardous environments. This training is invaluable in situations where individuals may be trapped or injured but professional rescue services have not yet arrived.
5. Team Organization: Working as a team is a cornerstone of the CERT program. Trainees learn how to organize volunteers, communicate effectively in high-stress environments, and lead efforts in managing a coordinated response to disasters.

Why is CERT Basic Training Important? In an emergency, CERT-trained individuals can make a significant difference in reducing injuries, preventing fatalities, and helping to maintain order. They act as an essential link between professional responders and the community by providing immediate assistance and helping ensure that critical needs are met until additional help arrives. CERT members are also trained to assess situations and act within the scope of their training, ensuring their own safety while assisting others.

This training also promotes community resilience. Neighbors helping neighbors builds a stronger sense of solidarity and preparedness, making communities better equipped to handle disasters when they occur. CERT programs foster a culture of safety and awareness, encouraging individuals to take action to protect themselves and others.

Ongoing Involvement and Opportunities CERT Basic Training is just the beginning. After completing the program, members have the opportunity to participate in ongoing exercises, advanced training sessions, and community service events. This continued involvement helps members stay engaged, maintain their skills, and stay ready to respond whenever the need arises.

CERT Basic Training provides invaluable skills that empower individuals to protect their communities during emergencies. From disaster preparedness to lifesaving first aid, CERT members play a crucial role in filling the gap between the onset of an emergency and the arrival of professional responders. The knowledge and confidence gained through CERT training help ensure that communities are not only prepared to survive disasters but also to recover and rebuild stronger than before. For those interested in making a difference in their community, this is an essential opportunity to learn, serve, and protect those around you.

What's a Constable?

Constables operate as individually elected county officials at no cost to the citizens or governments of the county. Constables supply their vehicles, fuel, and equipment. They stand ready to aid or assist all citizens and/or agencies within the county. The Tennessee Constable is a non salaried office! ABSOLUTELY no tax dollars are used to support the Constable's office.

The mission of the Constable's Office is to improve the quality of life for the citizens of Tipton County by working collaboratively with area law enforcement, General Sessions court, and our community to prevent crime, enforce the law, increase mobility, and target violent offenders for prosecution.

They hand-in-hand with the county Sheriff's Office and local Police Departments. Constables are also at the disposal of the various fire departments, EMS units, and rescue squads as well as any state or federal agency which might have use of their services.

Integrity - Compassion - Service Before Self - Excellence