



CERT ACTIVITIES

Throughout the year CERT is called upon to not only help during disasters, but to assist many different community events with their operations. Volunteers at these events assist with many different duties such as traffic control, distribution of supplies, and communications. CERT firmly believes that when it comes to our volunteers, there is a job for everyone. We even offer trainings for the community that focus on preparedness which is not necessarily covered in the standard CERT curriculum. The following list describes the activities that CERT participates in to give visitors an idea of what we can do. This list is not final and will be updated regularly as we add more events to our list.

CERT BASIC COURSE-Online all year and in person twice a year

Every CERT program throughout the country has a standard training that they participate in. The training was developed by FEMA to offer everyone a standard on what skills people trained in CERT should have. This training is an excellent tool for everyone to have and is not just for those wanting to be a CERT volunteer. In Laramie County, we have begun offering a flexible hybrid option for anyone interested in the training. Our goal is to encourage everyone to be better prepared during a disaster and also provide flexibility for everyone's already busy schedules.

Lecture Portion of Each Unit-FREE

Each unit is composed of a lecture and an activity that emphasizes the objectives of the unit. Laramie County uses the University of Utah online CERT Basic Course to cover the lectures of each unit. This is free to register. After passing each unit, the student receives a merit badge to track their progress. After completing all of the units online, the student receives a certificate that they have passed the lecture portion of the CERT Basic Course, but the student is done with their training just yet. In order to successfully complete the course, the student must also attend the hands-on activity trainings.

Hands-on Activities for Each Unit-FREE

Offered twice a year, for 2 Saturdays each time, Laramie County provides the opportunity for everyone to take part in the hands-on activities for each unit. At the end of the 2 days, participants will take a final exam and participate in an exercise that covers many of the skills learned throughout the course. After the student passes, they will receive a certificate of completion for the CERT Basic Course. Registration for this part of the course is done through Eventbrite and the links will be provided on our webpage when they are active.

Again, this training is not just for those who would like to volunteer with the CERT. This is a class that can teach everyone in the community how to be better prepared should there be a disaster. Often times during a disaster, first responders may not be able to reach you right away. CERT Basic can give you the necessary skills to take care of yourself and neighbors until help can arrive. The link for the University of Utah online course can be found on our webpage and upcoming hands-on activity training can be found on our calendar on the webpage.

OTHER CERT TRAININGS

The following list covers additional trainings that CERT participates in that are not part of the standard curriculum:

- Stop the Bleed
- CPR
- Communications Basics
- Damage Assessments
- ICS Forms
- Point of Dispensing (POD) Presentation
- Various ICS Classes

SUPERDAY-The last Saturday in June

Each year the City of Cheyenne in partnership with Holly Frontier organizes this great FREE community event. The day is full of fun activities, demonstrations, vendors, food and live music. CERT organizes an information table on preparedness and gives anyone interested the opportunity to sign up for the group. We partner with other agencies and organizations that are involved with preparedness such as the Wyoming Office of Homeland Security, Laramie County Combined Communications Center, Amateur Radio groups, and Prepare Wyoming. CERT volunteers are needed to hand out information at the table during the event and promote community preparedness.

CHEYENNE CHRISTMAS PARADE-The Saturday after Thanksgiving

The Cheyenne Chamber of Commerce organizes the annual Christmas Parade for Cheyenne which takes place in the evening on the Saturday right after Thanksgiving. CERT volunteers are asked to assist with traffic control, monitor the crowd to ensure their safety, and provide communications to the Command Post.

CHEYENNE-LARAMIE COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT CLINICS

Throughout the year, the Cheyenne-Laramie County Health Department organizes vaccine clinics and most recently COVID testing clinics. CERT volunteers are usually assigned to traffic control, form runners, communications, and monitoring.

PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT (PPE) DISTRIBUTION

Since the start of COVID, many organizations were in need of PPE for their operations. The Wyoming Department of Health regularly coordinates with the Cheyenne-Laramie County Health Department to provide and distribute supplies. CERT provided assistance with the PPE by sorting, organizing and delivering the much needed supplies to those facilities that requested it.

LOCAL RESPONSE EXERCISES

Each year, different agencies conduct exercises to determine if their response plans and people are ready should a disaster happen. Recently a shelter exercise was conducted in partnership with the local amateur

radio group to test our capabilities of providing communications to shelters. CERT volunteers had many different roles during this such as evaluators and participants.

BISON SHUFFLE-Middle of September

The Cheyenne Regional Medical Center Foundation puts on a run at the Terry Bison Ranch just South of Cheyenne. Volunteers are requested to assist with route control and safety, water stations, and communications.

WILD WEST AIRSHOW

The Wyoming Air National Guard provides an opportunity for the local residents to view some incredible flying machines on their base each year. Much like Superday, CERT provides a table to handout information on overall preparedness and to offer residents the opportunity to join the CERT volunteer group.