



CERT



NASSAU COUNTY



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**CERT IS
WHAT
YOU
MAKE IT**



**COUNTY,
STATE,
&
FEDERAL
ONE TEAM**

CERT Monthly Newsletter

AUGUST 2020

Dear Members,

We hope each of you, your families and loved ones are all healthy and safe.

Our thoughts and prayers are with everyone, especially first responders, doctors, nurses, those in the medical field, and everyone working behind the scenes to keep us safe and healthy during this pandemic and the recent weather events.

As we approach the month of August we were planning and hoping that we would be able to start to get back to training, meetings etc. In Nassau County we have made great progress and the situation appears to be improving, however we are still seeing people infected and hospitalized. We are constantly monitoring the situation and will continue to do so. When we are permitted to begin operations again we will do so.

As our region continues to reopen and move forward, usual summertime health risks like extreme heat still pose a critical threat. Please be sure to check on friends and neighbors who may be vulnerable. Stay up to date with the National Weather Service

The American Red Cross has changed how shelters are managed during COVID-19. If you have completed previous shelter training, please read the information on the next page to complete the updated training. If you do not have any shelter training or experience and are interested in completing a shelter basic training refer to information on page 3 of this newsletter. Also, this shelter basic training would be a great review for everyone.

Our door is always open, just need to maintain social distancing, please contact Bob, Rick, Paul or your Division Leaders if you have any concerns, questions. We are here for all of you.

Stay Safe and Stay Healthy

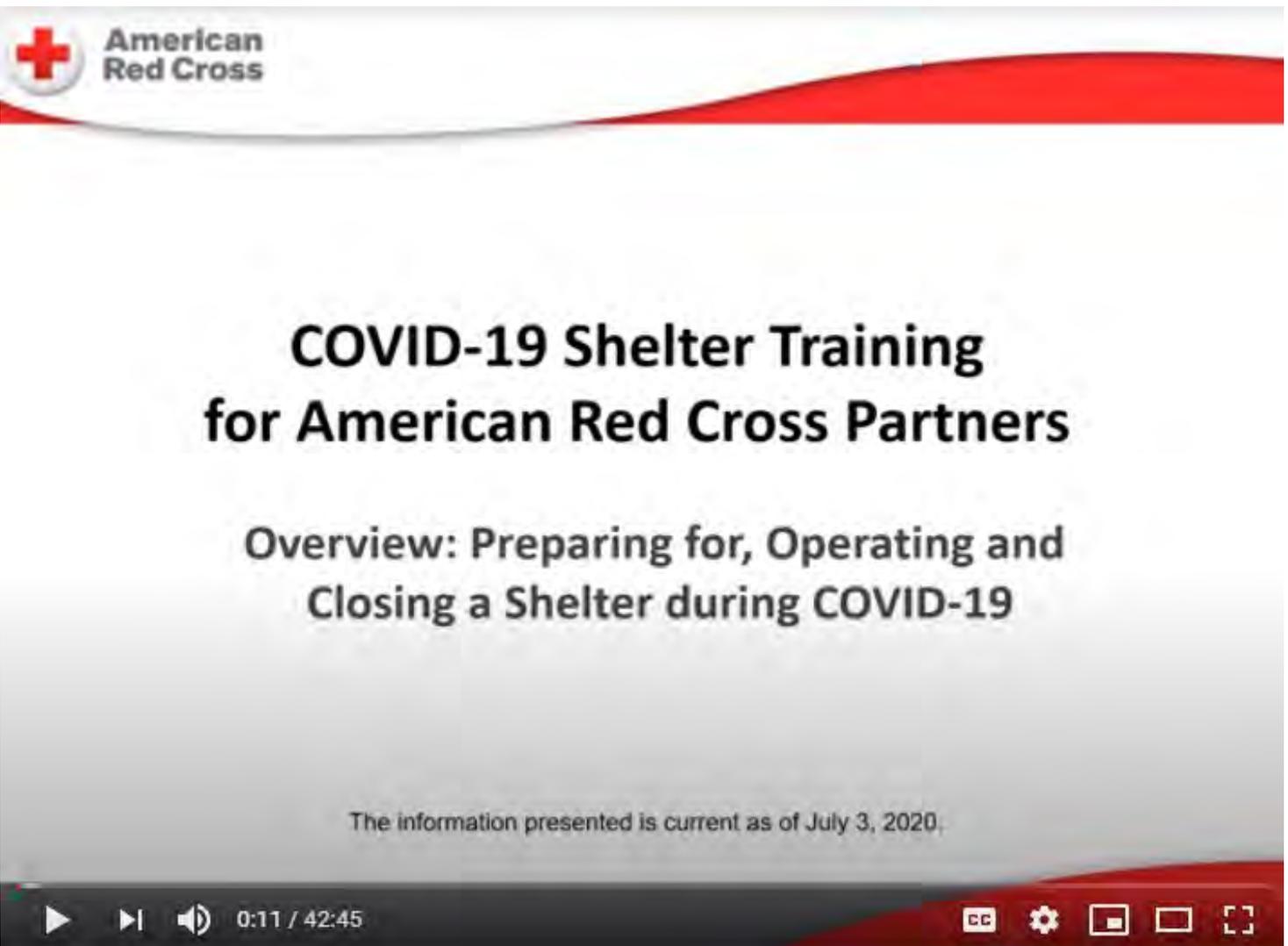
Bob, Rick & Paul

COVID-19 Shelter Training

This 42-minute training video provides an overview of how to prepare for, operate, and close a shelter during COVID-19. The training provides American Red Cross partners with sheltering updates specific to COVID-19. You need to complete the short [registration form](#) available using the link below. Upon submission, you will be directed to the training on YouTube. No login is required. Once you complete the registration form, it gives you a link to the YouTube training.

Upon completion of the training , please submit your information to OEMCERT@nassaucountyny.gov

<https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=Ql1b3dPA0kq18WDts68ncYMdaN-bd9JNssvui79Uf3dUMENZMFhWSIFPUkQ4M0tSOEJTVEpTTE82Sy4u>



Upon completion of the training , please submit your information to:
OEMCERT@nassaucountyny.gov



Resources – Training for *New Shelter Workers*

For partners who do not have any shelter training or experience,
we recommend 3 Red Cross classes available on YouTube:

1. Shelter Fundamentals v2 and Shelter Fundamentals Forms Training – 57 min.

<https://youtu.be/jwgBgG4s6Mo>

2. Sheltering in a COVID-19 Environment – 21 min.

<https://youtube.com/watch?v=pKpvlBbbYQc>

3. COVID-19 Shelter Assignments – 14 min.

<https://youtube.com/watch?v=lz3mLhj5HP4>

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Natural Disasters, Severe Weather, and COVID-19

Know how the COVID-19 pandemic can affect disaster preparedness and recovery, and what you can do to keep yourself and others safe.



Planning for hurricane season and other potential disasters can be stressful, and because the 2020 hurricane season comes during the coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) pandemic, it may be especially so.

Public health and emergency response professionals have advice to help you safely prepare, evacuate, and shelter for severe storms while protecting yourself and others from COVID-19. Here are some tips to

Prepare for hurricane season

- Understand that your planning may be different this year because of the need to protect yourself and others from COVID-19.
- Give yourself more time than usual to prepare your emergency food, water, and medicine supplies. Home delivery is the safest choice for buying disaster supplies; however, that may not be an option for everyone. If in-person shopping is your only choice, take steps to protect your and others' health when running essential errands.
- Protect yourself and others when filling prescriptions by limiting in-person visits to the pharmacy. Sign up for mail order delivery or call in your prescription ahead of time and use drive-through windows or curbside pickup, if available.
- Pay attention to local guidance about updated plans for evacuations and shelters, including shelters for your pets.
- When you check on neighbors and friends, be sure to follow social distancing recommendations (staying at least 6 feet from others) and other CDC recommendations to protect yourself and others.

Prepare to evacuate

- If you may need to evacuate, prepare a “go kit” with personal items you cannot do without during an emergency. Include items that can help protect you and others from COVID-19, such as hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol, bar or liquid soap, disinfectant wipes (if available) and two cloth face coverings for each person. Face covers should not be used by children under the age of 2. They also should not be used by people having trouble breathing, or who are unconscious, incapacitated, or unable to remove the mask without assistance.
- Know a safe place to shelter and have several ways to receive weather alerts, such as National Weather Service cell phone alerts external , NOAA Weather Radio external , or (@NWS) Twitter alerts.
- Find out if your local public shelter is open, in case you need to evacuate your home and go there. Your shelter location may be different this year due to the COVID-19 pandemic.
- If you need to go to a disaster shelter, follow CDC recommendations for staying safe and healthy in a public disaster shelter during the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Follow guidance from your local public health or emergency management officials on when and where to shelter.
- Make a plan and prepare a disaster kit for your pets. Find out if your disaster shelter will accept pets. Typically, when shelters accommodate pets, the pets are housed in a separate area from people.
- Follow safety precautions when using transportation to evacuate. If you have to travel away from your community to evacuate, follow safety precautions for travelers to protect yourself and others from COVID-19.

Staying with friends or family

If you will be staying with friends or family outside your household to evacuate from the storm:

- Talk to the people you plan to stay with about how you can all best protect yourselves from COVID-19.
- Consider if either of your households has someone who is at higher risk of developing severe illness from COVID-19, including older adults or people of any age who have underlying medical conditions. Make sure everyone knows what they can do to keep them safe from COVID-19.
- Follow everyday preventive actions, including covering coughs and sneezes, washing your hands often, and avoiding touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands. Consider taking extra precautions for people living in close quarters.
- Know what to do if someone in your family or in the household you are staying with becomes sick with COVID-19. Take steps to keep your pets safe.

Stay safe after a hurricane

In addition to following guidance for staying safe and healthy after a hurricane, note that:

- You should continue to follow preventive actions to protect yourself and others from COVID-19, like washing your hands and wearing a cloth face covering during cleanup or when returning home.
- It may take longer than usual to restore power and water if they are out. Take steps to prevent carbon monoxide poisoning if you use a generator.
- If you are injured or ill, contact your medical provider for treatment recommendations. Keep wounds clean to prevent infection. Remember, accessing medical care may be more difficult than usual during the pandemic.
- Dealing with disasters can cause stress and strong emotions, particularly during the COVID-19 pandemic. It is natural to feel anxiety, grief, and worry. Coping with these feelings and getting help when you need it will help you, your family, and your community recover.
- People with preexisting mental health conditions should continue with their treatment and be aware of new or worsening symptoms. Additional information can be found at the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration external page.
- After a hurricane, it's not unusual for rats, mice, and other pests to try to get into your home or building. Be aware that with restaurant and commercial closures related to COVID-19, there are already reports of increased rodent activity as they try to seek other sources of food. Follow recommendations for keeping pests out of your home.

August 2020

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
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September 2020

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
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