



BRUCE A. BLAKEMAN
NASSAU COUNTY EXECUTIVE



NASSAU COUNTY

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

**CERT IS WHAT
YOU MAKE IT**



**COUNTY, STATE
&
FEDERAL
ONE TEAM**



CERT MEMBER PARTICIPATING IN WIDE AREA SEARCH EXERCISE

NASSAU COUNTY CERT MEMBERS IN ACTION.

Members of the Nassau County Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) have been busy as of late. Whether training for wide area searches or acting as "victims" in a recent drill, members have been showing their willingness to participate and help out their community.

On Sunday September 25th Division 1 CERT members conducted a Wide Area Search training event at Stillwell Woods County Preserve in Syosset. Members conducted this search following prior training based on FEMA PER-213 which is a three day course along with dedicated training on the U.S. National Grid locating system. CERTs were to perform actions as if it were an actual deployment, including size-up, ICS procedures, Radio

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ICS forms and maps used during the event.



CERT members during the Wide Area Search training.

On Friday Oct. 7th, the Nassau County Police Department requested 10-12 CERT members to participate in a class run by LSU.

The CERT Role Players were briefed on safety procedures and then given roles as hysterical bystanders, perpetrators and injured victims throughout each of the scenarios. The CERTs followed a script and directions from the instructors. Moulage kits were used to simulate injuries adding to the realism. Commissioner Richard Corbett of OEM would like to thank each member of CERT



for their dedication and sacrifice which helps to make Nassau County a better, safer place. -

communications and proper search techniques. Primary search method was used along with elements of Hasty as the preserve restricts guests to remain on marked trails.

The Scenario involved a collision between two airliners above Nassau County where 600 people lost their lives and the collision created a very large debris field on the ground. A large county wide response was initiated and mutual aid from the surrounding area was requested. The Incident Command System (ICS) was implemented and radio communications were utilized. A wide area search was executed where CERT members checked all assigned areas based on maps created by the Incident Commander. Search teams were set-up which included a Team Lead, Scribe, Communicator and Searcher. All items found during the search were identified and their locations noted. Teams were instructed on the use of ICS forms which tracked data throughout the event.

After the search was concluded a "Hot Wash" took place where participants shared what they had learned, what surprised them and identified areas that needed improvement so that in the event they are requested for another search, it can be performed even better.



CERTs in moulage awaiting instruction for next scenario.

TIPS TO AVOID COOKING FIRES THIS HOLIDAY SEASON



The holidays are a time for friends, family, celebration and good food. However, fires and other kitchen mishaps can make an appearance if we aren't careful. According to the National Fire Protection Association, cooking fires are the number one cause of home fires and injuries. With the following tips to avoid cooking fires, the season's rounds of holiday parties can go on without a hitch.

BASIC COOKING SAFETY TIPS

As you are cooking for the holidays, keeping in mind the following tips can help you prevent fires:

- Stay Alert! A simple mistake such as leaving a flammable item on the stove can result in a fire. Avoid cooking if you have been drinking or are tired.
- Be present in the kitchen at all times when you are grilling, frying, or broiling food. If you need to leave the kitchen, turn off the appliance or stove before doing so. Use a timer to remind yourself when something is done cooking. You can save your food from burning and prevent a fire.
- Make sure smoke alarms are installed and working.

PREVENTING OVEN FIRES

- Avoid loading your stove up with pots and pans or trying to cook too many meals at once as it can increase the risk of grease fires.
- Never wear loose clothing or long sleeves when cooking as they can catch fire.
- Keep long hair tied back.
- Keep a lid nearby the stove to smother grease fires.
- If an oven fire breaks out, cut off the oxygen by closing the oven.
- Keep an eye on your cooking oil. If it is smoking, it is getting too hot and you'll need to remove the pan from the burner.
- Keep the stove clear of anything that can catch fire (such as curtains, oven mitts, and paper towels).

HANDLING FIRES

In the event a cooking fire does happen, don't panic! Just follow the following tips:

- Make sure guests get out of the home and you have a path out of the home in case the fire gets out of control.
- Keep an electrical or grease rated fire extinguisher nearby and know how to use it.
- Don't try to put out a grease fire with water as it can cause flaming oil to spread. It is possible to use baking soda to put out smaller fires.
- Always call 911.

By following these safety tips, you can enjoy your holiday meal while staying safe!



Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Services (RACES)



Hello all, we need to apologize for missing the last issue of the CERT Newsletter but things are getting busy for RACES and the CERT Communication Group.

After our usual business portion of our meetings we turn to training. On September, 1st we asked the members, Are You Prepared for Deployment? Of course they all said YES. Then we went over what you should have ready to deploy for your Go Bag, Jump Kit (Radio Equipment), family and pets for both at home and when deployed. We included other items as well to keep you and your fellow members safe. Members attending received handouts to help keep them on track. These documents included check lists as well as common signs of stress reactions. Our guest speaker Thomas Jones (KD2DZX / WRJR921) from Bridging the Gap Communication, One of our sister agencies, gave us information and advice on packing your gear to maximize your gear and limit fatigue. Thanks to TJ K2LIE for presenting the training and of course Thomas Jones for his part of the training.

On October, 6th our topic was on SKYWARN Winter Reportable Criteria. As always we emphasized the importance of remaining safe before reporting any weather event information. This information is crucial so OEM and other government and non-government agencies are able to mitigate the threats to people and property. Weather events are broken down into two categories, winter and summer, which we review prior to each season. Many of our members are SKYWARN trained yet a refresher is always a good idea. Thanks to Mike KA2DUT and Mike KD2KOE for conducting this training.

Training does not just happen at our meeting, on September, 21st several RACES Officers helped to teach the CERT Basic Radio Class in Rockville Center. As CERT Members you must remember the hands-on training with FRS radios and let us not forget the forms. As communicators we continue to practice our skill sets along with our sister agencies (ARES and EventHams) by assisting with events such as the ACS Walk at Jones Beach (October, 16th), Suffolk County Marathon (October, 23rd) and New York City Marathon (November, 6th). Whether it is in an official capacity or just as "Hams" it is just one more way we hone these skill sets so we are ready when called upon.

If you are interested or just curious about Emergency Communications we invite you to attend our meetings and trainings. The next RACES / CERT Communications meeting will be held on November, 3rd at 7:30pm in the lecture hall at OEM 510 Grumman Road West, Bethpage NY. Hope to see you there.

73

Bob Long, KC2PSN
RACES Chief Radio Officer



If you SEE Something SAY Something

Puzzle of the Month

Print this Page

Emergency Preparedness

M	X	R	P	N	P	N	I	Z	P	Y	M	V	Y	N	T	N
R	W	O	R	J	O	Q	P	R	V	F	H	I	C	C	V	E
O	E	S	O	N	P	T	B	S	W	E	A	Y	N	L	N	G
T	A	I	C	R	E	Y	I	A	I	L	N	P	E	H	Y	O
S	T	V	E	E	E	H	X	F	R	M	L	C	G	E	T	R
R	H	R	D	O	T	K	D	R	I	L	L	S	R	O	I	D
E	E	E	U	A	A	N	A	G	A	C	U	A	E	D	L	Y
D	R	P	R	E	F	C	O	E	A	K	A	Z	M	A	I	H
N	S	U	E	O	R	C	T	I	P	K	J	T	E	N	B	N
U	Y	S	S	M	S	E	R	I	T	S	E	U	I	R	I	E
H	J	L	R	A	O	H	V	O	O	A	D	P	M	O	S	R
T	M	A	B	E	Y	D	E	E	U	N	U	U	D	T	N	I
M	L	O	F	M	Z	C	V	L	S	T	U	C	O	L	O	F
A	V	P	O	W	E	R	S	H	T	Z	A	Y	A	L	P	J
P	J	O	O	J	S	S	J	N	V	E	V	G	A	V	S	I
S	J	J	G	D	R	X	S	U	C	F	R	I	E	M	E	T
B	L	Q	W	A	T	Z	P	A	F	R	A	D	I	O	R	X

Action	Alarm	Assembly	Drills
Emergency	Evacuation	Fire	Hydrogen
Loudspeaker	Notification	Outage	Power
Procedures	Radio	Responsibility	Severe
Shelter	Supervisor	Thunderstorm	Tornado
Weather			

Calendar of Events



MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY

SUNDAY

	1	CERT BASIC GRADUATION	RACES Meeting 7:30pm	4	5	6
7	Election Day	9	10	VETERANS DAY  — Honoring All Who Served —	12	13
14	CERT Division 2 Meeting 7:00pm	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	HAPPY Thanksgiving 	25	26	27
28	29	30				

Important Dates

CERT Basic Class Graduation – Wednesday November 2nd
 RACES Meeting – 7:30pm Thursday November 3rd
 Election Day – Tuesday November 8th
 CERT Division 2 Meeting, 7:00pm – November 15th
 Thanksgiving Day – November 24th



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