

# CERT SYLLABUS

## **CLASS 1 - INTRODUCTION, EARTHQUAKE AWARENESS**

Registration  
Introduction  
Threats In Your Area  
Personal & Family Preparation  
Nonstructural Hazard Mitigation

## **CLASS 2 - DISASTER FIRE SUPPRESSION TECHNIQUES**

Fire Chemistry  
Fire Extinguisher Use  
Utility Control  
Ventilation  
Creative Firefighting Techniques  
Hazardous Materials

## **CLASS 3 - DISASTER MEDICAL OPERATIONS (SESSION 1)**

Recognizing & Treating Life-Threatening Emergencies  
Triage  
Treatment Area Management

## **CLASS 4 - DISASTER MEDICAL OPERATIONS (SESSION 2)**

Head-to-Toe Evaluation  
Recognizing & Treating Nonlife-Threatening Emergencies

## **CLASS 5 - LIGHT SEARCH & RESCUE OPERATIONS**

Evacuation  
Search Techniques  
Rescue Methods

## **CLASS 6 - TEAM ORGANIZATION & MANAGEMENT**

Developing a Response Team  
Incident Command System  
Size-Up  
Disaster Psychology

## **CLASS 7 - COURSE REVIEW & DISASTER SIMULATION**

Disaster Simulation  
Critique

### **Please bring the following:**

Pen / paper  
Eye protection  
Hardhat  
Sturdy work boots  
Sturdy gloves



Greater Philadelphia Search and Rescue has the privilege of having the first 3 trained instructors in the area for the FEMA CERT program. FEMA developed the program due to the need for a well-trained civilian emergency work force. These teams will assist the government by responding during disaster situations where the number and scope of incidents have overwhelmed the conventional emergency services. The training program provides for community self-sufficiency through the development of multifunctional response teams who will act as an adjunct to the city's emergency services during major disasters. Through this unique program, people from community organizations, business and industry, and city employee groups will become members of CERT, or perform as individual leaders by directing untrained volunteers in the initial phase of an emergency.

The CERT members receive 16 hours (2 days – usually 1 weekend) of initial training. This course is beginning of an educational process that can be expanded upon should the student desire (fire academy, etc).

The ability of a business or community to effectively recover from the devastating effects of an earthquake requires the active participation, planning, and cooperation of all levels of the population. The fundamental responsibility for preparedness, however, lies with every individual.

By encouraging preparedness efforts and hazard mitigation, the effects of a disaster can be minimized considerably, as well as facilitate recovery. The benefits of this program are numerous. It has increased our overall level of disaster readiness, provided emergency skills that people may use in day-to-day emergencies, enhanced the bond between government and community, increased community spirit, and improved the quality of life for the people of our area.