

WHAT IS CERT?

CERT educates individuals about disaster preparedness for hazards that may impact their area and trains them in basic disaster response skills, such as fire safety, light search and rescue, team organization, and disaster medical operations. Using training learned in the classroom and during exercises, CERT volunteers can assist others in their community following a disaster when professional responders are not immediately available to help.

Citizens who have taken the CERT training are better prepared to respond to and cope with the aftermath of a disaster. Trained citizens and team are ready to:

- Provide immediate assistance to victims in their neighborhoods.
- Organize spontaneous, untrained volunteers to provide needed services.
- Collect disaster intelligence to assist professional emergency responders who are trying to allocate limited resources.
- Trained in damage assessment.

CERT motto: Do the greatest good for the greatest number.

Gladwin County CERT Team members give support to first responders such as helping firefighters at the fire hall after a structure fire or other emergency. Members help by cleaning apparatus and fire hoses to get them back into service. CERT members are trained in traffic control to help on emergency scenes.



GLADWIN COUNTY

**COMMUNITY
EMERGENCY
RESPONSE
TEAM**

**GET PREPARED
TODAY!
YOU CAN MAKE A
DIFFERENCE IN
YOUR COMMUNITY.**

WHY JOIN THE GLADWIN COUNTY CERT TEAM?

Would you know what to do if an emergency struck your community? After a disaster, professional responders will be needed everywhere. In the chaotic aftermath of an emergency, who could help until professional responders arrive? Who could be the first person on-scene to step up? The answer is: You!

When you see a family member, neighbor, friend or even a stranger's look of fear, you can be the support they need. You can direct friends to safety. You can help those who are hurt. You can be a leader in your community. In most emergencies, the victim or a bystander provides the first immediate assistance. Joining CERT teaches you how to respond when others look to you for help!

WHAT YOU LEARN

It takes about 20 hours to complete the CERT training. But the critical skills you learn will last your entire life. During the training you learn to:

- Extinguish small fires
- Conduct light search and rescue
- Assist those who are injured
- Set up medical treatment areas
- Assist emergency responders
- Identify and anticipate hazards
- Reduce fire hazards in the home and workplace
- Help reduce survivor stress

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

MI Zip Code: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

If you are interested in joining the Gladwin County CERT Team please fill out the application above and return to the Gladwin County Office of Emergency Management at 555 W. Cedar Ave., Gladwin, MI 48624

WHAT YOU DO

We all have a role to play in ensuring the safety of our communities. No matter where you live, no matter whom you are, no matter how you participate. What role will you play?

Once you complete your CERT training, you can participate in or lead a variety of activities. Here are some examples:

During an emergency a CERT member could:

- Organize other volunteers
- Assist in evacuations
- Provide damage assessment
- Provide shelter support to the American Red Cross
- Give assistance to other survivors
- Assist with crowd control
- Assist with traffic control

During non-emergency times a CERT member could:

- Assist the Emergency Management Office
- Participate in disaster drills and exercises
- Assist in preparedness outreach to other citizens
- Assist with traffic control at local events.