

How do I get started?

There are four options for you to use to contact us:

Call us at (928) 669-6141, or

E-mail us at mvalle@co.la-paz.az.us or

Fax us attention Mimi Valle at (928) 669-2008, or

Mail us this completed information form:

La Paz County Sheriff's Office
1109 Arizona Avenue
Parker, AZ 85344

Name: _____

Street: _____

City: _____ State: ____ Zip Code: _____

Phone: _____

E-mail: _____

Get involved today!

We want your neighborhood to be prepared if disaster strikes.

The key is you!

For More Information go to:
www.FEMA.gov

See What President Bush has to say about CERT!
Visit: www.citizen corps.gov

La Paz County Sheriff's /
Emergency Management Services
1109 Arizona Avenue
Parker, AZ 85344

To:



LA PAZ COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE / EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT SERVICES



COMMUNITY EMERGENCY RESPONSE TEAM (CERT)

Is your neighborhood prepared if disaster strikes?



Following a major disaster, first responders who provide fire and medical services will not be able to meet the demand for these services. Factors such as number of victims, communication failures, and road blockages will prevent people from accessing emergency services they have come to expect at a moment's notice through 911. **People will have to rely on each other for help in order to meet their immediate life saving and life sustaining needs.**

One also expects that under these conditions, family members, fellow employees, and neighbors will spontaneously try to help each other. This was the case following the Mexico City earthquake where untrained, spontaneous volunteers saved 800 people. However, 100 people lost their lives while attempting to save others. This is a high price to pay and is preventable through training.

Your neighbors need you

During the first few hours after a disaster emergency units will be overwhelmed, leaving your neighborhood to take care of itself until emergency units can respond. CERT training provides you the basic knowledge to support your family and neighborhood needs while waiting for help.

Be Prepared!

CERT programs help train members to be better prepared to respond to emergency situations in their communities. CERT members give critical support to first responders in emergencies, provide immediate assistance to victims, organize spontaneous volunteers at a disaster site, and collect disaster intelligence to support first responder efforts.

Why should I prepare?

The events of September 11th, 2001, have forever changed the emergency preparedness efforts of communities nationwide, and Chandler is no different. These events proved that disaster can strike anywhere at anytime. It is our obligation as a public safety organization to prepare the community prior to an event occurring. No one can predict when disaster will strike, however everyone can prepare for it. This program will truly prepare our community in the event of a disaster occurring and offer the community an organized volunteer response effort.

La Paz County CERT Program

The La Paz County has implemented a community-wide emergency response team approach to community preparedness. The purpose of the CERT team program is to prepare neighborhoods, businesses, special interest groups, places of worship, industry and virtually any other group or individual for a natural, man made or terrorist disaster. CERT teams will be activated at anytime that a large-scale disaster affects our community. The CERT program provides your neighborhood with enough training and knowledge to survive on your own until emergency crews can arrive to assist you.

Our Commitment to you

- Provide quality instruction, through the use of fire service professionals, to effectively train and prepare you and your fellow CERT team members in the basic skills for disaster preparedness response.
- Regular updates, via US mail or e-mail, on CERT team functions such as drills, workshops, and volunteer opportunities.
- Announcements of all Fire Department functions and updates.
- At the conclusion of your training you will be provided a safety vest and helmet, which will be used to clearly identify you as a CERT team member.
- In the event of a disaster you will be utilized by department response personnel to support on-scene operations.

Your Commitment

One night a week for seven weeks! The commitment to improve the preparedness level of your home, neighborhood, community and the willingness to act in the event that a disaster does strike our community.

Course goals

First, present citizens the facts about what to expect following a major disaster in terms of immediate services. Second, give the message about their responsibility for mitigation and preparedness. Third, train them in needed life saving skills with emphasis on decision making skills, rescuer safety, and doing the greatest good for the greatest number. Fourth, organize teams so that they are an extension of first responder services offering immediate help to victims until professional services arrive.

What does the training involve?

The CERT designation is achieved after the completion of a seven-week (one night a week) training program. The program will be conducted by the Fire Department and delivered by experienced fire service professionals. The only entrance requirement is that you are willing to be an active participant in our efforts to raise the community's preparedness level. There is no charge to attend this training.

If the one night-a-week program won't meet your needs, give us a call and we will try and set up a schedule that will.

Session One	Disaster Preparedness
Session Two	Disaster Fire Suppression
Session Three	Disaster Medical Operations I
Session Four	Disaster Medical Operations II
Session Five	Light Search and Rescue Operations
Session Six	Disaster Psychology and Team Organization
Session Seven	Course Overview and Disaster Simulation