

## Community Emergency Response Team (CERT)

Each year, many North Carolina communities are rocked by severe weather such as hurricanes, tornadoes, floods, winter storms or “man-made” disaster.

The damage caused by such disasters effect everyone. Disasters can severely restrict and overwhelm emergency response resources, communications, transportation and utilities and can leave neighborhoods and individuals cut off from outside emergency support.

Community Emergency Response Teams (CERT) are volunteers, consisting of 15-25 people from your communities, neighborhoods, schools, businesses, etc., who are trained to take care of themselves and then help others in their communities for the first three days following a disaster.

The Robeson County Emergency Management office CERT program was developed because of the need for a well-trained civilian emergency work force. CERT is a training program to help educated civilians on how to deal with disaster and other emergency situations.

These “teams” assist by responding during disaster situations where the number and scope of incidents have overwhelmed the conventional emergency response resources, communications, transportation and utilities, such as in the case of tornadoes, hurricanes and flooding.

With training and practice and by working as a TEAM, you will be able to do the greatest good for the greatest number of people after a disaster, while protecting yourself from becoming a victim.

*Contact your local Emergency Management office at 910-671-3150 for more information.*

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