

# More about CERT

**CERT** is about readiness, people helping people, rescuer safety, and doing the greatest good for the greatest number. CERT is a positive and realistic approach to emergency and disaster situations where citizens will be initially on their own and their actions can make a difference. Through training, citizens can manage utilities and put out small fires; treat the three killers by opening airways, controlling bleeding, and managing for shock; provide basic medical aid; search for and rescue victims safely; and organize themselves and spontaneous volunteers to be effective.

## Come Join the CERT Team

Contact the Highland Park Police Department for more information at **847.926.1114** or **CERT@cityhpil.com**. Find more information at **[www.cityhpil.com/police/cert](http://www.cityhpil.com/police/cert)**.

**Always Dial 911 for Emergencies**



**The Greatest Good...  
...For the Greatest Number**



 City of Highland Park

# Community Emergency Response Team

**Join the Team**



Police Department  
1677 Old Deerfield Road  
Highland Park, IL 60035

**[www.cityhpil.com/police/cert](http://www.cityhpil.com/police/cert)**

# About CERT

The Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) Program educates people 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 the training learned in the classroom and during exercises, CERT members can assist others in their neighborhood or workplace following an event when professional responders are not immediately available to help.

CERT members are encouraged to support emergency response agencies by taking a more active role in emergency preparedness projects in their community.

# Benefits to the Community

People who go through CERT training have a better understanding of the potential threats to their home, workplace and community and can take the right steps to lessen the effects of these hazards on themselves, their homes or workplace.

If a disaster happens that overwhelms local response capability, CERT members can apply the training learned in the classroom and during exercises to give critical support to their family, loved ones, neighbors or associates in their immediate area until help arrives. When help does arrive, CERTs provide useful information to responders and support their efforts, as directed, at the disaster site.

CERT members can also assist with non-emergency projects that improve the safety of the community. CERTs have been used to distribute and/or install smoke alarms, replace smoke alarm batteries in the home of elderly, distribute disaster education material, provide services at special events, such as parades, sporting events, concerts and more.



## FAQs

### What Kind of Training Do CERT Members Receive?

Specific skills such as fire safety, light search and rescue, disaster medical operations, and traffic control are provided to members online, in the classroom and during live exercises.

### What is the Time Commitment?

The CERT team has evening training the first Wednesday of every month. In addition the team has about 10 activations a year which members are encouraged to attend however not required. The 4th of July and Taste of Highland Park are high CERT participation days.

### Is there a Cost to Join?

There is no cost to join the CERT team. Upon completion of the initial training requirements you will be issued all gear needed.

### Why join the CERT team?

Members of the CERT team are trained to assist in times of disaster. This training provides members with life saving skills and information on how to respond to disasters. Team members also feel rewarded by giving back to their community.

