



FEMA

Community Emergency Response Team



Department of Homeland Security
Emergency Preparedness and Response Directorate
FEMA

THE
CITY OF WESTON
Weston, Florida

citizen  *corps*



CERT - Did you say CERT?



- ❖ Support Fire, Police, Emergency medical services
- ❖ Triage / Damage assessment
- ❖ Basic first aid
- ❖ Controlled search and rescue
- ❖ Traffic/crowd management
- ❖ Other tasks in emergency response situations
- ❖ Educate the community





Origin of the Species



- ❖ Started in Los Angeles 1985
- ❖ Became part of FEMA 1993
- ❖ Concept has expanded nationwide
- ❖ Created in Weston 2006
- ❖ Current Weston CERT Group – 54 members
- ❖ Many more have gone through the basic training



Safeguarding Your Home



❖ Do you have a building exit strategy?



❖ Portable fire extinguisher(s)?

❖ Know how to turn off the gas/and or water?



❖ Alternative to the stairs?

❖ Can you handle a grease fire?





So, What's an Emergency?



- ❖ Natural or Manmade
- ❖ Fire
- ❖ Flood
- ❖ Structural damage
- ❖ Extreme weather
- ❖ Power outage





- ❖ **Hurricanes (and hurricane amnesia)**
- ❖ **Lightning**
- ❖ **Heat/humidity**
- ❖ **Heavy rains**
- ❖ **High velocity wind gusts**
- ❖ **Health related issues (mold, etc.)**



Fires



- ❖ Double in size every 30 seconds
- ❖ Move quickly
- ❖ Produce great amounts of smoke
- ❖ Most deaths from smoke inhalation/CM poisoning
- ❖ Common Causes – candles, faulty electric wiring





Utility Disruption



- ❖ Power outages – an inconvenience at best
- ❖ Life sustaining equipment challenges
- ❖ Refrigeration loss
- ❖ Internet loss – possible psychological effects
- ❖ Contamination/reduction in potable water supply



- ❖ Flu or other epidemics
- ❖ Hazardous chemical spills
- ❖ Radiation leaks
- ❖ Terrorism (deliberately causing an emergency)





Venue Evacuations



❖ If you sense danger

❖ Smell smoke

❖ See flames

❖ Smell what could be toxic fumes

❖ When advised by authorities

❖ Plan place to regroup (meet)



Make It To Go

- ❖ A “Go Bag”?
- ❖ Tell us why
- ❖ One for each family member
- ❖ Only pack what you can carry
- ❖ Some suggested items





Stay Connected



- ❖ Battery or crank powered radio
- ❖ Printed list of key phone numbers
- ❖ Include out-of-state contacts
- ❖ Register for Weston's **Code Red** program





And in Conclusion.....

For more information on CERT in general, go to

www.citizencorps.gov/cert/



For more information on Weston CERT go to

www.westonfl.org

or call

954-389-2015