



CERT NEWS



Spring 2008

Information for Manchester, MO CERT members

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We avidly welcome your comments, suggestions, photos, articles and contributions to our newsletter. Please forward all submissions to the editor:
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Manchester, MO



CERT: "Doing the greatest good for the greatest number"

From the Top

Flood Safety Awareness Week

Release Date: March 18, 2008
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Federal Emergency Management Agency
www.fema.gov

FEMA and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's National Weather Service encourages citizens to know their flood hazards. National Flood Safety Awareness Week is intended to highlight some of the many ways floods can occur, the hazards associated with floods, and what you can do to save life and property.

Flooding is a coast to coast threat to the United States and its territories in all months of the year. National Flood Safety Awareness Week is intended to highlight some of the many ways floods can occur, the hazards associated with floods, and what you can do to save life and property.

Floods are one of the most common hazards in the United States. Flood effects can be local, impacting a neighborhood or community, or very large, affecting entire river basins and multiple states.



*Water St. street sign in Fenton, Missouri, 03/23/2008 -
Jocelyn Augustino/FEMA*

However, all floods are not alike. Some floods develop slowly, sometimes over a period of days. But flash floods can develop quickly, sometimes in just a few minutes and without any visible signs of rain. Flash floods often have a dangerous wall of roaring water that carries rocks, mud, and other debris and can sweep away most things in its path. Overland flooding occurs outside a defined river or stream, such as when a levee is breached, but still can be destructive. Flooding can also occur when a dam breaks, producing effects similar to flash floods.

Be aware of flood hazards no matter where you live, but especially if you live in a low-lying area, near water or downstream from a dam. Even very small streams, gullies, creeks, culverts, dry streambeds, or low-lying ground that appear harmless in dry weather can flood. Every state is at risk from this hazard.

For more information, please visit www.weather.gov/floodsafety/

CERT Calendar and Upcoming Events:

*** CERT Summer Training Class**

The next CERT Training Class is in the works. Although we haven't settled on the exact dates yet, the class will run on a weekday evening during June and July. Applications are available on the City's website (www.manchestermo.gov) under the document center or at City Hall during regular business hours. If you have questions regarding the training, please contact Lt. Tim Walsh at 227-1385 Ext. 119 or Sgt. Chuck Hunn at Ext. 391. *We hope that those who have taken the course, recognize its benefits and would encourage their neighbors and relatives to pick up an application.*

*** Volunteers are needed** to assist in planning activities for this year's Homecoming Festival. The 22nd Annual Manchester Homecoming will take place on **September 5th, 6th, and 7th**, at Paul A. Schroeder Park. Please let me know if you are interested.

*** Training Opportunity**

Maryland Heights CERT has been promoting and offering an Introduction to Search and Rescue Class (ISAR™) that gets participants a SAR TECH III certification. Being lost can be terrifying and in some situations can lead to a slow horrible death. In the state of Missouri there are only 47 SAR TECH III's and even less SAR TECH II's and I's. There is a great need for trained search and rescue workers and CERT can make a huge difference.

Class: Introduction to Search and Rescue class

Dates: May 17th and 18th (*only 4 spaces left*)
June 7th and 8th

Instructor: This course is being taught by a National Association of Search and Rescue certified instructor.
- *Tim Cannon, Shawn Hornbeck Search and Rescue*
NASAR Certified Instructor for Introduction to Search and Rescue, Fundamentals of Search and Rescue and Managing the Lost Person Incident

Registration: Limited to 25 per class.

Certification: Upon satisfactory completion each participant will receive a SAR TECH III certification.

For more information and registration form, see below:

Return Registration and Fees (Check or Money Order) Payable To:

Maryland Heights Fire Protection District
Attn: CERT SAR TECH III Training
2600 Schuetz Road
Maryland Heights, MO 63043
(314) 298-4400

Introduction to Search and Rescue, Including the SAR TECH III exam and certification (ISAR™) COURSE

Dates: June 7 & 8, **Time:** 8:00 – 4:30 both days, **Location:** Maryland Heights Fire House #1

Registration Fee: \$ 110.00

Name: _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Home Telephone: _____

Work Telephone: _____

EMAIL: _____

NASAR Member: Yes No Member Number: _____

CERT Team Affiliation: _____

SAR Experience (If Any): _____



Introduction to Search and Rescue Including SAR TECH III Certification

There have been many “high profile” searches in the news and media in the recent past. Every time a child goes missing there is a search. Every time there is a lost hiker or camper there is a search. The need is great, as CERT Team members we can make a difference whether we are involved in an urban area search and rescue operation after a disaster or whether there is a search and rescue operation in place for a lost or missing child. There is always a need for additional trained search and rescue volunteers. Consider the fact that there are only fifty certified SAR TECH III search and rescue workers in the state of Missouri and how much it would benefit the community at large if we were certified search and rescue SAR TECH III's.

Light Search and Rescue is one of the basic training modules from your initial CERT training here is your opportunity to make a difference and become a true expert in search and rescue.

The Introduction to Search and Rescue (ISAR) course is a course designed to provide knowledge concerning the general responsibilities, skills, abilities, and the equipment needed by persons who would be participating in a search or rescue mission. The course is based around rural and wilderness environments but the material is recommended as a base of knowledge for all Search and Rescue (SAR) environments. The Introduction to Search and Rescue course is the first course in a stepping stone approach to higher level courses of training for emergency personnel. It provides a common starting point in training for the new person to SAR and in many cases, an excellent refresher course for the more experience SAR worker. This common starting point provides continuity during SAR operations and future training of all team members. The recommended number of hours for the course is (16) sixteen. The course is also designed to prepare the student for certification, according to the knowledge objectives defined in the NASAR Standards for SAR TECH III.

Course Objectives include:

- SAR What is it and How do You Fit In Components of SAR
- SAR Management System
- Land Navigation and Orienteering
- SAR Resources
- Search Philosophy and Probability Theory
- Search Tactics
- Clue Consciousness
- Search Operations
- Lost Person Behavior
- Helicopter Operations in SAR
- Communications

SARTECH III Examination

The SARTECH III level of certification is the beginning level for SAR personnel. This level is recommended for any person who responds to and functions on SAR missions. Persons who obtain this certification are to function within the limits of the certification described in the NASAR standards for SARTECH III. The NASAR course that teaches the knowledge to challenge the SARTECH III is Introduction to Search and Rescue

The written exam includes questions from the following topics:

- NIMS Incident Command System
- Land Navigation & Orienteering
- SAR Resources
- Search Philosophy
- Search Tactics
- Clue Consciousness
- Search Operations
- Lost Person Behavior
- Helicopter Operations
- Communications

The SARTECH program is an evaluation process not a learning process. Candidates demonstrate basic SAR competency through written tests and practical skill demonstrations of search and rescue skills.

Early enrollment in this course is important. There are a limited number of openings and the course is expected to fill up fast. If the class fills up it is our intention to offer another class in June. Enrollment can be made by filling out the attached registration form and mailing it along with a check. This class includes the required textbook, course material, student registration, certification upon successful completion, breakfast and lunch. NASAR will award a certificate of completion to those who successfully complete the class. This is a “certificate course” which is being hosted by the Maryland Heights CERT Team and the instructor, a NASAR Contract employee, is responsible for ensuring that registrations and course completions are recorded with NASAR.

***Let's make CERT the resource for doubling the number of
SAR TECH III's in the state this summer!***