

CERT Volunteers are Special!

**We appreciate
you being here tonight!**

**Thank you
for your service.**

HOUSEKEEPING ANNOUNCEMENTS



- ▶ Please “rename” your screen presence indicating **your first name, last name and CERT Class #**
e.g., Rescue Randy CERT 999
- ▶ Please find the “chat” feature by moving your mouse pointer over the menu bar, we will be using ‘chat’ for interaction
- ▶ This session including chat is being recorded



CERT Program Meeting

Fairfax County CERT
May 20, 2025



WHAT TO EXPECT THIS EVENING

Elvia Foil



CERT Program Meeting

- ▶ Updates from Volunteer Liaison / CERT Program Manager
- ▶ Save CERT
- ▶ 5, 10, 15 & 20 Year Awards
- ▶ Summer Events

FRD Office of the Volunteer Liaison

Jeffrey Katz/Dana Powers/Robby Drapela

Fire.cert@fairfaxcounty.gov



Office of the FRD Volunteer Liaison

Jeffrey Katz/Dana Powers/Robby Drapela



- ▶ FY26 County Budget – Save CERT
- ▶ Welcome to Chief John L. Walser, Assistant Chief, Office of the Fire Chief
- ▶ Congratulations **Class 201!**



Congratulations to CERT Basic Class 201!

Lead Instructor Wayne Vick



Many thanks to our Training cadre!

VOLUNTEER LEAD

Elvia Foil

LEAD@FairfaxCountyCERT.org

THANK YOU!

Communications



Fairfax County CERT Spring Potluck



May 20, 2025
Social time and appetizers

Schedule:

6:15 pm – Food is available

6:45 pm – Pre-program meeting slide show begins

7:15 pm – CERT program meeting

**21
Years**

THANK YOU!

**21
Years**



PROGRAM & ASSOCIATION MEETINGS



Celebrating 20 Years

Doing the Greatest Good for the Greatest Number of People!



2025 Monthly Program Meetings

3rd Tuesday of Every Month

Hybrid

June 17th* | July 15th
Aug 20th | Sept 16th

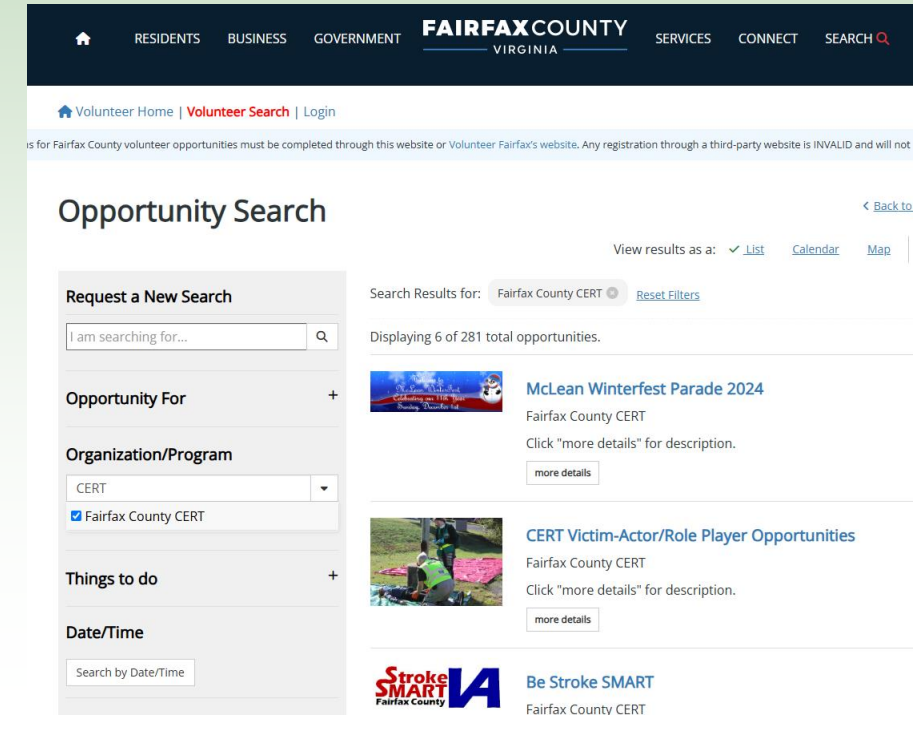
***Restaurant Fundraiser
before the June 17th meeting**

STAY CONNECTED with all CERT EVENTS



Volunteer Management System (VMS) Website

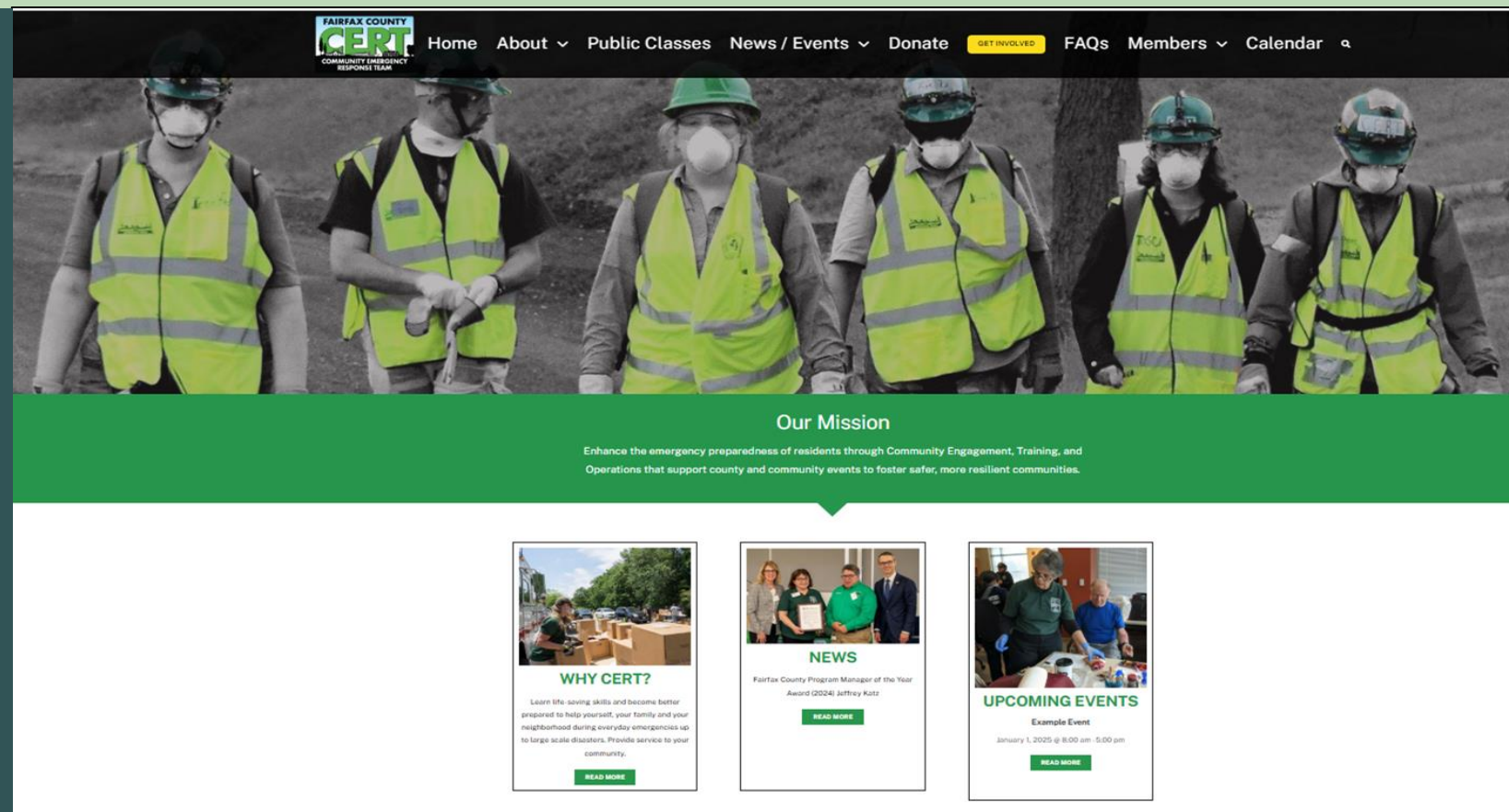
Volunteer.fairfaxcounty.gov/custom/1380/
Register here for most CERT classes and events



STAY CONNECTED – visit CERT Website



Visit our **New**
CERT Website!



Fairfax County CERT Mission Statement



**Enhance the emergency preparedness of residents through
Community Engagement, Training, and Operations
that support county and community events
to foster safer, more resilient communities**



Thank you for your Support from our Leadership

OPERATIONS

COMMUNITY
ENGAGEMENT

TRAINING

MARKETING

SAFETY

LOGISTICS

FACILITIES

ADMINISTRATION

CANTEEN

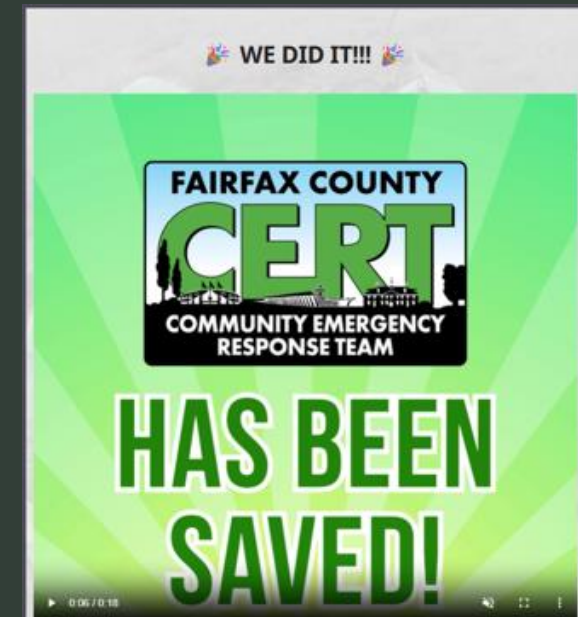
Save CERT Initiative

Watkins Gray

DeputyLead@FairfaxCountyCERT.org

Save CERT

National CERT Conference
August 2025



Deputy Volunteer Lead

Watkins Gray



Deputy Volunteer Lead

SAVE CERT

Watkins Gray



The CERT program will continue!

On May 13, the Board approved the budget with CERT being reinstated and funded.

We share this victory with you all! It highlights the incredible impact we have when working together.



Deputy Volunteer Lead

SAVE CERT

Watkins Gray



- **Thank you** to the overwhelming support from our volunteers, our neighboring CERT programs, concerned residents, and our community partners.
- Your letters, emails, phone calls, petitions, print and social media stories, news interviews, and meetings with the Supervisors, were essential to our success.



Deputy Volunteer Lead

SAVE CERT

Watkins Gray



- Special shout outs to **Jerry, Ray, and Kelly** who orchestrated a very successful media campaign including print, news, and social media
- **Marshall** was instrumental in getting the website updated and creating the petition.
- **Susy** reviewed members hours from last year so that we could update the Table of Services quickly



Deputy Volunteer Lead

SAVE CERT

Watkins Gray



- Many CERT members made appearances at individual supervisor's meetings and at the large public meetings
- Several members made arrangements to talk to individual supervisors and/or their chiefs of staff – Annie O'Neill, Linda Waller, Laura Bender, and others



Deputy Volunteer Lead

SAVE CERT

Watkins Gray



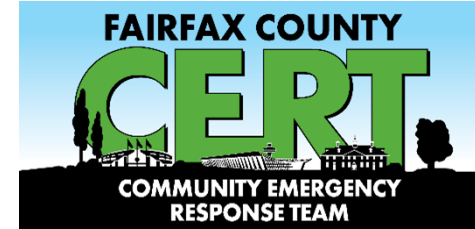
- CERT members stepped up to speak before the board of supervisors during the public hearings
- **Ross Branstetter**
- **Alex Van Veen**
- **Jonah Lee**
- **Travis Chatfield**
- **Others**
- **Thank you all**



Deputy Volunteer Lead

SAVE CERT

Watkins Gray



- Chief Butler and many of the supervisors commented on the visible presence of CERT at the meetings and how that made an impact.
- One positive thing about the experience was that we were able to reach more of the county and talk about the CERT Program
- We can view this as a giant Outreach Event.



Deputy Volunteer Lead

SAVE CERT

Watkins Gray



Next Steps:

- Please reach out and thank the people you have contacted to advocate on our behalf.
- Elvia and I will talk to the individual supervisors to personally thank them.
- We think we are insulated from budget cuts for the next few years.



Deputy Volunteer Lead

SAVE CERT

Watkins Gray



- Thank you again for all of your support.
- This was truly a team effort and brought out some of the best traits of our program – organization, passion, and commitment.
- Any questions?



Deputy Volunteer Lead

Watkins Gray



REGISTRATION NOW OPEN
2025 NATIONAL CERT CONFERENCE
INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA

PRE-CONFERENCE: AUGUST 4 - 6
MAIN CONFERENCE: AUGUST 6 -9

EARLY BIRD RATES AVAILABLE UNTIL JUNE 6TH

Registration now open for the 2025 National CERT Conference in the Greater Indianapolis Area. Early bird rates available until June 6th

National CERT Association (<https://nationalcert.org/>)

Canteen Coordinator

Char Silberstein

CERTCanteen@FairfaxCountyCERT.org

Canteen History

Canteen Activities



Canteen – A Quick History

Char Silberstein, Canteen Coordinator / Deputies: Marshall Levin & Lani Young



Started with the CGM (V-099) in 2023

- * Nov 2023 Brought on a Canteen Coordinator and added two Deputies since
- * Purchased “a real” Canteen vehicle (V-021) from Springfield FRD with financial assistance from FS 405 and the CERT Association
- * Instituted a Vehicle Committee
- * Grew from **14** runs the first year in 2023; to **35** in 2024; to **20** halfway through 2025
- * Have a mutual relationship with Springfield FRD and their two canteens 422A and 422B
- Increased our drivers and crew from a total of **20** members in 2023 to **46** today (14 drivers;32 crew)
- * Purchased and set up a "garage" at CERT Station for V-021 to protect it from the elements

Canteen

Char Silberstein, Canteen Coordinator / Marshall Levin, Deputy



- * Purchased, and will install in the near future, two ICECO coolers for V-021 to alleviate "icing" up at the Fire Academy before each run, *reducing valuable response time*
- * Moved extra stock from Lab at CERT Station to FRA Closet to maintain controlled temperatures for maximum shelf life
- * SOPs for Fire & Rescue Dept for Canteen Deployments have been rewritten to include CERT
- * Registered V-021 officially as a CERT asset with the State and County
- * Officially recognized and requested by the FRD and surrounding agencies for various functions, including the:
 - Trevor Brown Funeral
 - DCA Airplane crash
 - Nat'l Fallen Firefighter's Memorial in Emmitsburg MD

CERTCanteen@fairfaxcountycert.org

Canteen 400 ACTIVITIES



Operations

James Sobecke

OPERATIONS@FairfaxCountyCERT.org

**Thank you for your
Support**

Upcoming Events



James Sobecke



Mt Olive Baptist Church Easter Event (TCM)

Responder/Safety Day – DEMS (TCM)

Radio Team Workshop #85

McLean Day (TCM)

Springfield Braddock Bark - Community Event (TCM)



Operations

James Sobecke



McLean Day – 5/17



Upcoming Events

May 22

Neighborhood & Community Awards (TCM)

May 23

Motorcycle Convoy (RFTW) Reception (TCM)

May 25

Ride of Patriots (TCM) – Ride of the Patriots

May 25

Radio Team Workshops (in person)

May 30

FRA/VCPS HS-FF Graduation (TCM)

Jun 7 & 8

Occoquan Riverfest

Jun 27

Independence Day Fireworks (TCM) – McLean

Jul 4

Fireworks (TCM) – Fairfax City



Operations

James Sobecke



Future Event

**TCM Field Day
Demonstration / Hands-on Drill**
*Date **TBD***

TRAFFIC & CROWD MANAGEMENT CCE CLASS

**Saturday, June 14
6:00 – 8:00 pm**



FACILITIES

Charlie Hoffman

Facilities@FairfaxCountyCERT.org

CERT Station

Vehicle Coordination



FACILITIES at CERT Station

Charlie Hoffman



A Look Back ... 2023 to current

After emptying and moving the shipping containers to their new location on “Mount Trashmore” we set up home. CERT volunteers got to work ...



Facilities@FairfaxcountyCERT.org

FACILITIES & CERT Station

Charlie Hoffman



- ▶ A used classroom trailer was purchased plus an old guard shack to protect the generator. We had a **meeting space** with light and HVAC.
- ▶ In 2025, the decision was made to purchase a **cover** to protect **Canteen V-021** from the elements. One **shipping container** was rotated ninety degrees and positioned to accept the roof mounted cover. After delays getting some required welding completed the canopy was installed. A **back wall** was added this May to enclose the end and add additional protection.
- ▶ The **roof** of the classroom was professionally coated so "the classroom" should last many more years.
- ▶ Currently testing a **solar powered system** to provide **120V power** to the trucks to maintain their batteries and the coolers in V-021 operating when parked.

FACILITIES & CERT Station

Charlie Hoffman



A Look Ahead ...

- Near future, need to install the roof ventilators on the three containers; more welding required. Finish area cleanup and possibly do some exterior painting.



A Big Thank You to our work crews to have made these improvements possible to create a comfortable space for vehicles and group meetings.

LOGISTICS at CERT Station

Don Tillson

LOGISTICS@FairfaxCountyCERT.org

CERT Backpacks

Supplies

Equipment

Give Aways



COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Kim Sopko

COMMUNITY@FairfaxCountyCERT.org

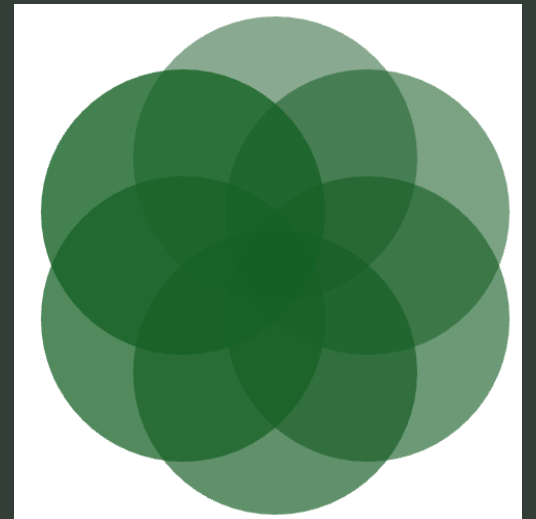
Community Partnerships

Outreach

Teams

Speaker's Bureau

In-Reach



COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

How We Have *Grown!*



- ▶ Supporting more training exercises with victim actors and moulage for **Fire Department, Police Department, VCU Paramedic School, and EMT Classes**
- ▶ Expanding Outreach Events to include Canteen
- ▶ Partnerships with FRD to support CERT-related **Hands Only CPR** events
- ▶ **MWAA** is now under Community Engagement with ongoing strong partnership
- ▶ Restructured Neighborhood Teams to **Area Community Teams** and aligns with Fire Department Division, Battalion, and Station structure
- ▶ Partnering with FRD for **Get Alarmed; Fire Safety Initiative;** and **PSHQ Bring Your Child to Work Day**
- ▶ Continual support of **Board of Supervisor community events**

EVENTS COMPLETED

THANK YOU VOLUNTEERS FOR THESE GREAT EVENTS



Completed Outreach Event – Thank you!

- ▶ April 24 – Outreach at Pentagon (Doug & Mary)
- ▶ April 26 – Outreach & TCM at Unified Response Day (Carole, Kathy, Kim)



Community Engagement

Outreach: Doug Goodman



Completed Outreach Event – Thank you!

Bring Child to Work Day – PSHQ – April 24



Thank you!
to Faye, Kathy, Debi,
Nick, James, Kim

EVENTS COMPLETED

THANK YOU **VOLUNTEERS** FOR THESE GREAT EVENTS



Completed Events – Thank you!

- ▶ May 10 – **Speaking Engagement** at Crosspointe Neighborhood (Jim & Liz)
- ▶ May 15 – **Outreach** at Ft. Belvoir Safety Day (Ginny & Doug)



EVENTS COMPLETED

THANK YOU **VOLUNTEERS** FOR THESE GREAT EVENTS



- ▶ April 23 – 24, May 1, 5, 6 – Gwyneth's Gifts Hands Only CPR
- ▶ May 1 – Victim Actors – Joint PD & FRD exercises
- ▶ May 6 – Victim Actors – VCU Paramedic School
- ▶ May 10 – Victim Actors – CERT Final Exercise
- ▶ May 20 – Potluck Volunteers



Upcoming Community Engagement Events



May 26,
Jul 9 & 10

Victim Actors – VCU Paramedic School

May 28

Team Time Chat - Virtual

Jun 1

Victim Actors – EMT MCI Drill at FRA

Jun 7

Outreach – Mt. Vernon Summer Palooza

Jun 10

Victim Actors – EMT TCPE Exam

Jun 11

Outreach – DIA Reston Safety Day

Jun 24

Meeting for ACT Div., Batt. & Station Leads

Jun 25

Speaker at Reston CAC

Jun 25

Team Time Chat – Virtual



**Search VMS and CERT Website
to Sign Up for these Opportunities!**

FairfaxCountyCERT.org
Volunteer.FairfaxCounty.gov

Community Engagement

Partnerships – Victim Actors: Kim Sopko



Multiple Role Player / Victim Actor Opportunities

EMT Training Exercises

https://volunteer.fairfaxcounty.gov/custom/1380/opp_details/183466

June 1

June 10

July 12

VCU Paramedic Program

https://volunteer.fairfaxcounty.gov/custom/1380/opp_details/189903

May 27

July 9 & 10



Community Engagement

Partnerships – MWAA K9 – Lani Young



Dulles Airport and Reagan National Airport



Support MWAA K9 Passenger Screening Training

Trained CERT volunteers
help canines to train for
passenger inspection at
airport terminals



Questions?

Contact: Lani Y. onyxarcher@cs.com

https://volunteer.fairfaxcounty.gov/custom/1380/opp_details/185319

Community Engagement

Speaker's Bureau – Ray Katona



Upcoming Speaking Engagements

Jun 25 – Reston Community Advisory Committee

By Jim McPheeters



Area Community Teams

Teams: Marco Johnson

Join Today!

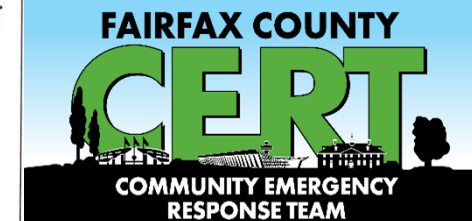
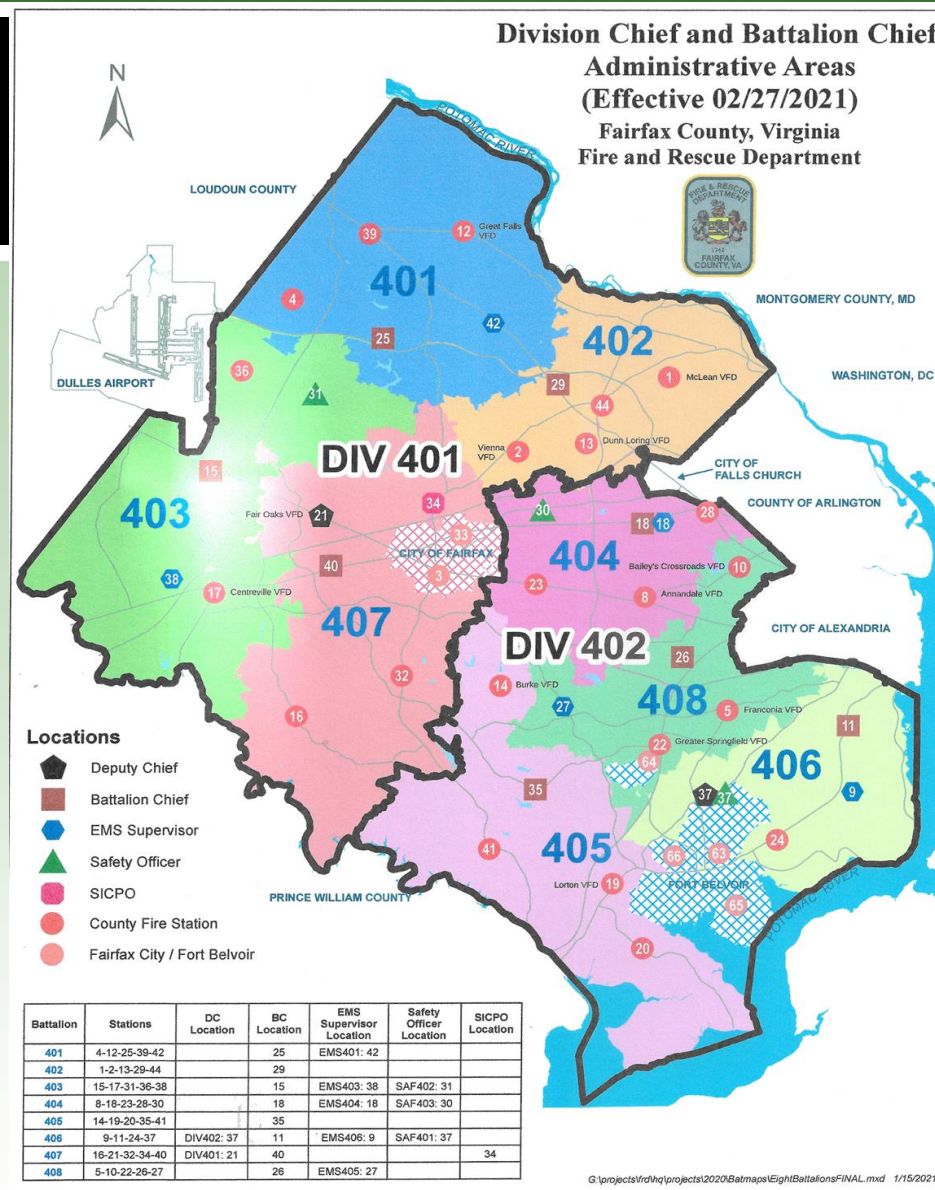
Area Community Team (ACT)

- Send an email to: Teams@fairfaxcountycert.org requesting to be put on a TEAM.
- Include: Name, CERT Class number, address, phone number, email, radio call sign (if any)
- Use Fairfax County myneighborhood tool to find closest station.

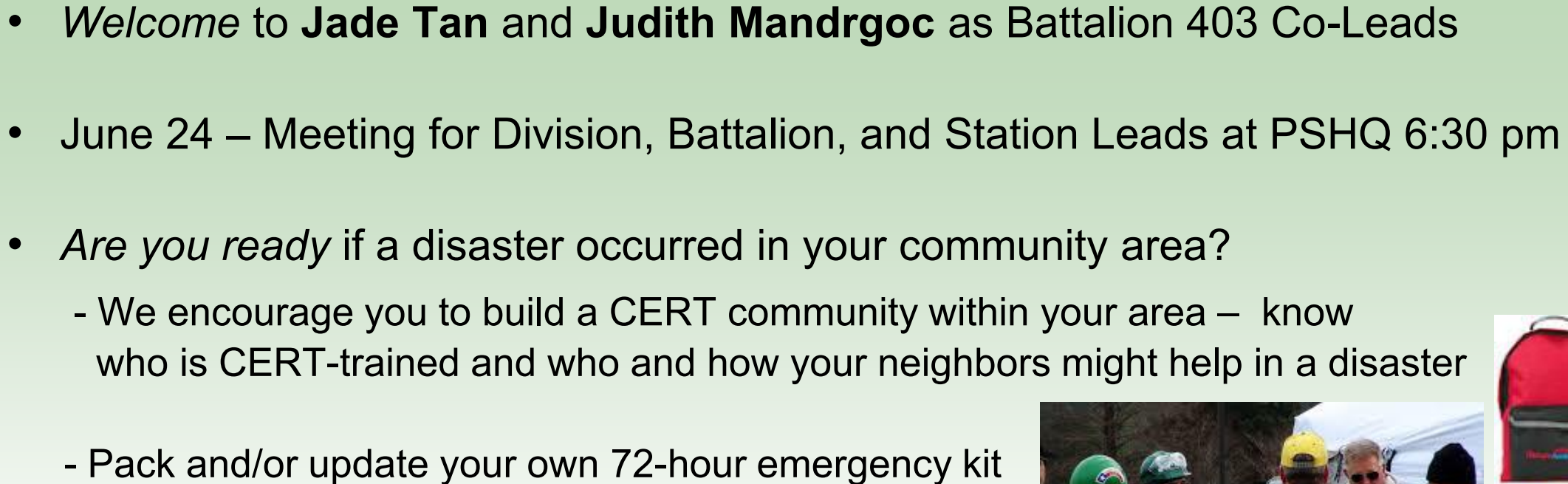
<https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/myneighborhood/>

Questions? Contact Marco2plan4it@live.com or Teams@fairfaxcountycert.org

Community@FairfaxCountyCERT.org



Teams: Marco Johnson



50

Community Engagement

Teams: Marco Johnson & Denise Dorn

Keep **ALERT**
Be Informed



Team Time Virtual Monthly Meeting

Wednesday, May 28 | 12:00 - 12:30 PM

Fourth Wednesday of the month

- Half hour chat for any Teams topics from CERT Basic graduates
- Chat items recorded and answered or referred
- Action items are tracked and reported on

Zoom Link:

<https://zoom.us/j/93114613495?pwd=WkRGTVdGU2NSdDIBVmt2SWZBUUpwdz09>



Questions? Contact Marco2plan4it@live.com or Teams@fairfaxcountycert.org
Community@FairfaxCountyCERT.org

Community Engagement

CERT Welcome & Orientation: Kim Sopko



CERT Welcome and Orientation

Designed for all recent CERT Basic graduates and those who want to re-engage with the CERT Program.

https://volunteer.fairfaxcounty.gov/custom/1380/opp_details/183282

Coming in July

Date **TBD**

7:00 pm

Zoom

Join us to learn ways to participate and collaborate with fellow CERT Team members!



Training

Interim Division Lead: Robby Drapela

training@fairfaxcountycert.org

Deputy: Cory Goodall

trainingdeputy@fairfaxcountycert.org

Basic Classes

**CERT Continuing
Education (CCE)**

Completed Classes



Training

Robby Drapela, Training Lead / Cory Goodall, Deputy Training Lead

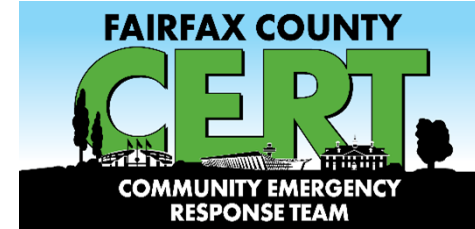


COMPLETED CLASSES

- ▶ April 22 Revive Training
- ▶ April 22 Introduction to Hazardous Materials, Wayne
- ▶ May 7, 9, 10 CERT Incident Management, Denise
- ▶ May 12 & 15 CERT Emergency Preparedness, Marco & Lani
- ▶ May 17 CPR/AED/First Aid, Watkins, Carol, Ross

Upcoming Training Events: April - June

Robby Drapela, Training Lead / Cory Goodall, Deputy Training Lead



May

21 & 22
28
31

Mental Health First Aid | Online | 6:30 – 10:30 | Lead: Berkeley
CERT Basic Class 203 begins
Hands-only CPR in Spanish to Berkdale Apartments

June

14
14
14
14
27-29

Stop the Bleed | PSHQ | 8:00-10:30
Be Stroke Smart | PSHQ | 11:30-1:00
Emergency Communications | FRA | 2:00-4:00 | Lead: James (update*)
Traffic & Crowd Management | FRA | 6:00-8:00 | Lead: James
TEEX Wide Area Search | 8-5 | Lead: TEEX

July

Summer



Break

Upcoming Training Events: CERT Basic

Robby Drapela, Training Division Lead / Cory Goodall, Training Deputy Lead



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May - July
May 28
June 4, 11, 18, 25
July 2, 9, 12 (final)

CERT Basic Class 203
Annandale Volunteer Fire Department
Lead: Cory Goodall
Deputylead@fairfaxcountycert.org

COMPLETED: CERT Basic Class 201 with 12 students
Lead: Wayne Vick

Thank you to everybody that made this class happen!!!



Victim Actors Needed for Class 203 Basic Final on July 12

***Looking for volunteers to be trained to be cadre – assistants and instructors.
Come out, visit a class, and get a behind-the-scenes look!***

Class 201 Final - Many thanks to our Cadre! Lead Instructor Wayne Vick



SAFETY

Ginny Katona

SAFETY@FairfaxCountyCERT.org

Safety Events

Sun Protection



Upcoming Safety Opportunities

7/9/2025 **Inspection of Duplex at**
Workhouse Arts Center, 10:00 am –
need 1-2 volunteers

7/12/2025 **Class 203 Final at**
Workhouse Arts Center, 6:00 am –
need 2-3 volunteers



Sun Protection

Exposure to sunlight and its ultraviolet (UV) rays causes skin cancer, sunburns, and aging. The more UV exposure the higher your risk .

That is why sun protection is important year-round, even on cloudy days. Sunlight is also reflected off of water, snow, sand, and cement.

Some are more susceptible to skin cancer and other damage from the UV rays. This includes family history, previous skin cancer, and certain medications.

Protecting yourself:

- Stay out of the sun, especially during peak exposure time, 10:00am to 4:00pm.
- Use a broad-spectrum sunscreen with an SPF of at least 15. Check expiration date.
(No exp. date means that it is not good for more than 3 years.) Apply at least every 2 hours.
- Wear sun protective clothing with a SPF rating or just long sleeves and long pants.
- Use wrap-around eyewear with UV protection.
- Wear Wide-brimmed hat.
- Protect your neck.
- Sun protective gloves.
- Sun mask.



Report any new or changed moles or skin spots
to your physician or dermatologist.



During a disaster:

- Keep personal protection in your pack.
- Remember the importance of shelter for yourself and anyone you may be helping.



References:

[Cancer.org/sunsafety](https://www.cancer.org/sunsafety) (American Cancer Society)

[CDC.gov](https://www.cdc.gov)

<https://www.safetyandhealthmagazine.com> (Safety & Health Magazine)

Fairfax CERT Association



FAIRFAX CERT ASSOCIATION

► Julie Thomas, Treasurer



Home Membership Donations Uniforms Logo Items Memorial Fund Fundraisers Contact Us

► Merchandise

- Order online thru square site:
- New! CERT Coins
- Uniform Polos and Hats
- Members receive \$5 discount – contact Treasurer for a code

► Membership Renewals

► Member Donations

<https://fccertva.square.site/>

QUESTIONS?

We would like to hear from you!



FAIRFAX COUNTY CERT LEADERSHIP



Program Role	Name	Email@FairfaxCountyCERT.org
Volunteer Lead	Elvia Foil	Lead@
Deputy Lead	Watkins Gray	DeputyLead@
Safety	Ginny Katona	Safety@
Advisor	Ross Branstetter	Advisor@
Administration	Jerry Anderson	CERTAdmin@
CERT Station	Charlie Hoffman	Facilities@
CERT Canteen	Char Silberstein / Deputy Marshall/ Deputy Lani	CERTCanteen@ / canteendeputy1@
Community Engagement	Kim Sopko	Community@
Outreach	Doug G. / Deputy Ginny Katona	Outreach@ / OutreachDeputy@
Teams	Marco Johnson / Deputy Kathy Jones	Teams@
Orientation	Kim Sopko	Orientation@
Logistics	Don Tillson / Deputy Lani Young	Logistics@
Marketing	Kelly Oehlschlager	Marketing@
Operations	James Sobecke	Operations@
Strategic Planning	Jim McPheeters	StratPlng@
Training	Robby Drapela/ Deputy Cory Goodall	Training@ / TrainingDeputy@

FAIRFAX CERT ASSOCIATION BOARD MEMBERS



Name	Role	Email	Domain
Marshall Levin	President	PRESIDENT@	FairfaxCERTAssociation.org
Cory Goodall	Vice President	VP@	FairfaxCERTAssociation.org
Julie Thomas	Treasurer	TREASURER@	FairfaxCERTAssociation.org
Ray Katona	Secretary	SECRETARY@	FairfaxCERTAssociation.org
Thomas Wilkens	Member at Large 1	MAL1@	FairfaxCERTAssociation.org
Char Silberstein	Member at Large 2	MAL2@	FairfaxCERTAssociation.org
Elvia Foil	Program Volunteer Lead	Lead@	FairfaxCountyCERT.org
Jeffrey Katz	Program Manager/ FRD Liaison	Jeffrey.Katz@	FairfaxCounty.gov

Email all the above at: **Board@FairfaxCERTAssociation.org**

Next Program Meeting

June 17, 2025

**7 pm at Public Safety Headquarters Building
(Hybrid)**

Restaurant Fundraiser before the meeting!

FairfaxCountyCERT.org

