



November 2010

Neighbors Helping Neighbors...

Ready Neighbor News

SOU Basic Training a Success

Ashland CERT conducted its first Southern Oregon University Basic Training Course. The course utilized five days of classroom instruction on campus followed by a course review, station training, and culmination exercise on the last day at The Grove in Ashland.

The course format proved challenging because there was limited time to conduct the final exercise in only four hours. By using the “station training” methodology that has proven successful for other CERT programs, the SOU course was able to stay on schedule and immerse participants in triage, victim extrication, light search and rescue, radio communications, and fire



SOU Trainees learn Fire Suppression

suppression.

The format seemed to work well and feedback from instructors indicated it would be useful for the upcoming refresher training on November 13, also at The Grove.

Ashland CERT has 16 new members who live or work in Ashland and will be assigned to Lincoln Base. SOU course graduates will have special training in responding to disasters on the SOU campus as their disaster preparedness plan is finalized.

Special thanks to our great CERT members and Ashland firefighters who were instructors and also executed the final day exercise.



Tim Learmont gives Mission / Safety Brief to Trainees

Basic Training Graduation

The SOU Basic Training Course graduation will be held on November 10, 2010 starting at 6:30 PM at Fire Station 1. The graduation will correspond with the CERT General Meeting.

Please join us in meeting and welcoming our newest members to the CERT program. There will be awards for the honor graduate and each graduate will receive a diploma.

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Next Meeting Dates:

General Meeting:

November 10, Fire Station 1, 6:30 PM Start, doors open at 6:00 PM.

Leadership Meeting:

November 24, Fire Station 1, 6:30 PM Start, doors open at 6:00 PM.



Annual CERT Review and Awards Event Rescheduled to Jan. 6

Because of schedule conflicts Ashland Fire & Rescue will host the CERT Year in Review and Awards Ceremony for Ashland CERT members on Thursday, January 6, 2011 at Pioneer Hall in Ashland.

The event will give Ashland Fire & Rescue and others the opportunity to express their gratitude for all the hard work Ashland CERT members have done, reflect on what Ashland CERT accomplished in 2010, and forecast what Ashland CERT intends to do in 2011.

The event is scheduled from 6 PM to 9 PM and should include food, conversation among friends, and an interesting

review of the Ashland CERT program to include a program budget forecast.



The event will conclude with an awards presentation for Ashland CERT members so everyone should come to congratulate those who have contributed so much toward the success of the Ashland CERT

program.

The event will be open to anyone who completed Ashland CERT basic training and their guests and Ashland Fire & Rescue staff and their guests.

Attendees must RSVP no later than December 15th to attend by emailing Richard at randler@ashland.or.us.

In addition to attending, there are also opportunities for CERT members to participate in the planning of the event.

Volunteers to complete tasks ranging from food selection to decorating are needed and will not affect your time or ability to participate in the event.

Don't Forget—Refresher Training Nov 13th!

As many of you are aware, Ashland CERT will conduct its first refresher training course on November 13, 2010 at the Grove in Ashland from 9 AM to 2 PM.

NOTE: YOU MUST REGISTER FOR THIS CLASS

The refresher course will provide previous CERT basic training graduates an opportunity to review the hands-on skills they learned during the basic course.

Students will review fire safety and suppression, triage, search & rescue, phone tree activations and CERT mission

plans.

Limited classroom curriculum will be offered as the class is primarily focused on refreshing CERT member's practical skills.

All students attending CERT refresher training must have previously completed a CERT basic course.

The course will be conducted in The Grove gym so inclement weather will not interfere with the training. Refreshments will be provided.

To register, contact Terri Eubanks by calling her at 541-552-2242 or email her at eubankst@ashland.or.us

GET PREPARED AS YOU TURN CLOCKS BACK

With Daylight Saving Time coming to an end, FEMA is encouraging Americans to take advantage of the November 7 time change as a reminder to make sure their families are prepared for a possible emergency.

A few simple steps like testing and changing batteries for smoke alarms, developing a family communications plan, and putting an emergency kit together can go a long way toward keeping families safe.

Go to www.ready.gov for info.

CERT Calendar of Events

November 2010	December 2010	January 2011
General Meeting / CERT Graduation Nov 10 CERT Refresher Training November 13 Leadership Planning Meeting November 17	CERT Hosted ICS 300-400 Classes 6-9 DEC No General Meeting Holiday Season Training Stand Down No Leadership Meeting	CERT Review & Awards January 6 General Meeting January 12 Leadership Meeting January 26
February 2011	March 2011	April 2011
SOU Basic Training Tue-Thur, Feb 1– 24 General Meeting February 9 Leadership Meeting February 23 Semi-Annual Phone Tree Test	General Meeting March 9 CERT Advanced / Leadership Training 3/19 Leadership Meeting March 23	National Volunteer Week April 10-16 General Meeting April 13 CERT Spring Basic Training April 15-23 Awards and Graduation event April 27
May 2011	June 2011	July 2011
General Meeting May 11 Fire Fighter / Victim Rehab and Fire Evacuation Training- May 21 Leadership Meeting May 25	General Meeting June 8 Post Disaster Recovery Training Leadership Meeting Jun 22	Support of 4th of July in the Park General Meeting July 13 Search & Rescue Mission Training Leadership Meeting July 27
August 2011	September 2011	October 2011
General Meeting August 10 CERT Semi-Annual Phone Tree Test Leadership Meeting August 24	National Preparedness Month General Meeting September 14 Base Bike Ride September 17 Leadership Meeting September 21 CERT Fall Basic Training 9/23 - 10/1	General Meeting October 12 Phone Tree Test October 13 Leadership Meeting October 26

This is a planning calendar, please notify Richard if there are missing events or if you would like to add an event idea.

Holiday Training & Meeting Stand Down

CERT had a busy year with three mobilizations two basic training events, a disaster preparedness workshop and refresher training.

To recover and reset, CERT will stand down during the month of December except for emergency activations.

Staff will be working on planning and training, however, there will be no meetings or training in the month of December.

Free ICS 300-400 Training

Ashland CERT is hosting an ICS 300-400 intensive class December 6-9 from 8 AM to 5 PM at Pioneer Hall in Ashland.

This is a required course for emergency responders and public agency staff who are tasked with working in incident command or an emergency operations center during a disaster.

The great thing about this course for CERT members is they will have an opportunity to meet firefighters and city staff personnel who are also taking the class.

The class is an “intensive version” where students are able to complete two three-day classes in four days.

What is more, the class is being underwritten by FEMA so there is no cost to the city or CERT for instructors and everyone attends for free.

If CERT members wish to take this class they **must pre-register by calling 541-552-2226 or emailing Richard at randler@ashland.or.us**

Winter Storms, Deceptive Killers says National Weather Service

Each year, dozens of Americans die due to exposure to cold. Add to that number, vehicle accidents and fatalities, fires due to dangerous use of heaters and other winter weather fatalities and you have a significant threat.

About 70% of injuries due to ice and snow are the result of vehicle accidents. About 25% of injuries occur in people caught out in a storm and most happen to males over 40 years old.

What should you do in preparation for winter storms?

First, be informed. You should have a battery powered radio that receives NOAA radio.

go to
<http://tiny.cc/winterprep>

These radios, referred to as “weather radios” are widely available and relatively inexpensive. Don’t forget to keep spare batteries and rotate them when you change your smoke detector batteries.

Second, be prepared. Have a disaster kit in your home and car. At home, prepare an emergency heat source such as a wood stove or space heater.

For preparing your car, include extra blankets, water, and food. Also carry a shovel and

sand or kitty litter for traction if you become stuck. When traveling, keep your gas tank full and let people know when you should arrive and the route you are taking.

During a winter storm. If you are caught in a storm seek shelter immediately. Melt snow first for drinking water to maintain your body temperature. Use your vehicle as shelter if traveling by running the motor 10 minutes each hour for heat and cracking the window slightly for ventilation. Be visible to rescuers by leaving on the dome light or marking your antenna with a bright colored cloth.

Ashland CERT
455 Siskiyou Boulevard
Ashland, OR 97520

TO: