

What is the purpose of CERT?

Every year, North Carolina communities are affected by emergencies such as hurricanes, tornadoes, floods, winter storms, and man made disasters. The damage caused by such disasters can have devastating and long-lasting effects on a community.

During Hurricane Florence:

- 23 inches of rain fell in New Hanover County, flooding homes, damaging buildings, and washing out roads
- More than 350 people were rescued from rising flood waters
- 114,000 utility customers lost power
- 2.5 million cubic yards of storm debris was produced in the county

In disaster situations, emergency response resources can be stretched thin. CERT volunteers can help relieve first responders to focus on more complex tasks of disaster recovery by utilizing their training to keep their families and neighbors safe.

CERT volunteers play a crucial role in helping their community recover from disasters.

About CERT

The primary objective of the CERT Program is to train volunteers to safely and promptly care for themselves, their families, and neighbors during an emergency, helping to relieve demand on first responders.

Contact Us

Website: EM911.NHCgov.com

Phone: (910) 798-6900

Email: nhccert@NHCgov.com

NEW HANOVER COUNTY

Emergency Management & 911
230 Government Center Dr. Suite 115
Wilmington, NC 28403

COMMUNITY EMERGENCY RESPONSE TEAM



**Become a member of
New Hanover County
CERT and help make
a difference in your
community in the
event of a disaster.**



NEW HANOVER COUNTY
EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT & 911



Who should enroll in CERT?

Citizens of New Hanover County, community groups, business owners, homeowner associations, and school personnel that want the skills and knowledge to prepare for and respond to a disaster.

How long is the CERT program?

The CERT program consists of 22 hours of hands-on training over the course of eight weeks. Classes are scheduled on evenings and weekends. For a detailed schedule, visit EM911.NHCgov.com.

Who provides CERT training?

CERT volunteers are trained in basic disaster response skills by professional firefighters, EMS personnel, and other emergency responders.

How do I register for CERT?

Please call (910) 798-6900, or email nhccert@nhc.gov.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

Through hands-on training, CERT volunteers will learn:

- Types of hazards most likely to affect your home and community
- Steps to prepare yourself and your family for a disaster
- To identify and reduce fire hazards in your home and workplace
- Basic first aid techniques to clear blocked airways, control bleeding, and treat various wounds
- Safe removal of debris
- Safety of rescuers during search and rescue missions



COURSE AGENDA

Disaster Preparedness

Hazards specific to the county, preparing for and responding to disasters, laws related to CERT

Psychology & Team Organizations

Signs and symptoms that may be experienced by disaster victims and workers, CERT organization and management

Fire Safety

Identifying and reducing potential fire hazards, safe use of fire extinguishers, and safely extinguishing small fires

Medical Operations Part I

Practice diagnosing and treating airway obstruction, bleeding, and shock using simple triage and rapid treatment skills

Medical Operations Part 2

Evaluating patients by doing a head-to-toe assessment, set up of treatment area, and performing basic first aid

Light Search & Rescue Operations

Search and rescue training, search and rescue techniques, and rescue safety

Course Review & Disaster Simulation

Review of course topics and hands-on practice of skills