

Official Press Release – March 25, 2019

Subject: Emergency Preparedness Training-Free!!!!

In May, 2019

Want to help?? Not sure where you can help in our community?? For a good introduction to the emergency services in our community you might consider a twenty-hour training program for our local Community Emergency Response Team (CERT)!!

The Department of Emergency Management for the Town of Monroe is announcing another training program for persons interested in being part of a local CERT. Training sessions will be held on two Friday evenings and two Saturdays in May. Most of the training sessions will be held at the Monroe Senior Center at 235 Cutlers Farm Road.

This class is for you! Become trained to help your family, friends, neighbors and the community as you actively assist Monroe's Emergency Services during emergencies such as snow storms, floods or natural and man-made incidents. Monroe Emergency Management Director (EMD) David York said that "In the several years since CERT volunteers have been active, they have assisted at summer concerts in Wolfe Park, assisted at other events in town, also helped Newtown CERT with an activity there, and most importantly helped for many hours with sheltering townspeople at the Senior Center during our several serious storms and power outages. " CERT members have provided assistance to our first responders since they have been trained and are able to help Monroe Police, Fire, Volunteer Emergency Medical Services (VEMS) along with shelter personnel, as well as residents and neighbors when a disaster strikes."

These training sessions will be conducted by eight local members of the Monroe CERT all of whom have been certified as CERT Instructors by the Connecticut Division of Emergency Management and Homeland Security. Other local instructors from our Town Police, Fire and Emergency Medical Service will assist in the training. Persons interested in being certified as CERT members need to be trained for a minimum of 20 hours. There is no cost for this training.

CERT volunteers are trained in a variety of emergency skills such as disaster psychology, first aid, CPR and AED, fire safety, traffic control, hazardous materials awareness, emergency shelters, light search and rescue, disaster scenarios and terrorism. For more information and registration form, please visit the website <http://www.monroect.org/CERT>. Those interested in looking for further information should contact EMD York by email at [DYork@ MonroeCt.org](mailto:DYork@MonroeCt.org) or call him at 203-650-8474 or Deputy EMD Captain White (203-261-3622).

The class is limited to 25 people so interested persons should register as soon as possible. The only requirement is that participants must be 18 years or older.

The class schedule begins with an Orientation on Wednesday, April 24 at 7:30 p.m. at the Center. Training sessions will be held on Friday evenings from 7 p.m. to 10 p.m. and Saturdays, from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. on May 10 and 11 and also May 17 and 18. The Graduation for the course will be on Thursday, June 13 at 7:00 p.m. at the Center.

Location: Monroe Center – 235 Cutlers Farm Road – also Monroe Fire Station #1 – other locations to be announced.

Eligibility: 18 years or older

Cost: Free! No charge for training or materials

Sponsors: Town of Monroe Emergency Management, Monroe Police Department