

Border Community SERVICE
Special Emergency Response Volunteer Initiative
for Community Empowerment
Web: www.niagara.edu/bordercommunityservice

Niagara University

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**Helpful Learning
Materials for
CERT volunteers!**

The Federal Emergency Management Agency provides numerous online independent study courses for emergency response volunteers and interested persons. A full independent study brochure can be found at <http://training.fema.gov/IS/docs/IS%20Brochure.pdf>

Active CERT Members are urged to go to www.training.fema.gov to complete the following courses at their earliest convenience:

- IS-100: Introduction to Incident Command System
- IS-700: National Incident Management System (NIMS), An Introduction

Some recommendations for additional citizen preparedness training available at the FEMA web-site (www.training.fema.gov) include:

- IS-7.A: A Citizen's Guide to Disaster Assistance
- IS-22: Are You Ready?
- IS-317: Introduction to Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) This is an excellent review of training material.

Don't have a home computer? You're most welcome to come to the Border Community SERVICE office during our regular summer office hours, Mon – Thu (8:30 AM–4:30 PM) and Fri (8:30 AM - noon) to use an office computer to take a course.

**FREE American Red Cross
Disaster Response Training!**

Please be on the alert for FREE American Red Cross (ARC) Disaster Response training coming soon and including a FREE lunch!! Everyone is encouraged to attend: this includes fire companies, church groups, high school groups, business personnel, block clubs, CERT groups, and yourselves!

The **Eastern Niagara County** (Lockport) and **Niagara Falls** Chapters of the **American Red Cross** Chapters are planning to provide joint training in the areas of:

- Disaster preparedness training for families & businesses
- "Introduction to Disaster " (This course is also available online at www.redcross.org)
- "Mission of the Red Cross"

- "Mass Care"
- "Shelter Operation"
- Display of a National ARC Emergency Response Vehicle (ERV) if it is not deployed to a disaster!

This is a preliminary notice; more information will follow soon. Targeted dates are (Saturdays) August 18, September 22, and November 3, 2007 (8 AM to 4:30 PM). Location information should be available by August 4. Attending the training not only enhances personal preparedness, but also provides Red Cross certification in the above areas and could lead to DAT (Disaster Action Team) qualification .

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Volunteer Opportunities

Your help is needed to represent **CERT** at

“Crime Night Out”

on **Tuesday, August 7**

Niagara Falls

The Niagara Falls Block Club Council continues to take an active role in crime prevention by hosting a local, nationally recognized “Crime Night Out” evening in conjunction with the 24th Annual National Night Out. The event is scheduled at the **Polish Nook Restaurant**, 2242 Cudabeck Avenue, Niagara Falls, from **5:30 to 8:30 PM**. A neighborhood walk will follow from 8:30 to 9PM. Volunteers are needed to staff an information table and distribute emergency preparedness materials.

Lockport

Lockport’s “Crime Night Out” event will take place **6 to 9 PM** at the corner of **Washington and Allen Streets** in the **City of Lockport**. Again, volunteers are needed to host an information table and distribute emergency preparedness materials.

North Tonawanda

North Tonawanda’s “Crime Night Out” event will take place from **6 to 8:30 PM** in the parking lot of the **North Tonawanda Senior High School**. Again, volunteers are needed to host a CERT information table and distribute emergency preparedness materials.

Please call the BCS office at 205-0070 if you are interested in representing the CERT program at either one of these locations. All materials will be supplied.

Ideas?

If you know of appropriate situations or events where Border Community SERVICE and CERT volunteers could be helpful, please contact our office with that information. We’d also like to hear about trainings and community activities that would be of interest to CERT volunteers.

“Victims” Needed!

Volunteer help is needed during decontamination drills at local hospitals. Hospital staff will practice and refine their skills and response plans during a simulated chemical disaster. Border Community SERVICE Volunteers are invited to participate as “victims.” Two daytime drills are scheduled:



Thursday, August 16: (9:00 AM -12:00 noon) at **DeGraff Memorial Hospital** in North Tonawanda

A third decontamination drill is being planned for a later August date. It will take place at **Buffalo General Hospital** located on High Street in Buffalo. The time will be 8:00-11:00AM. We should have the date soon. Please call 205-0070 for more information if you’re interested.

CERT members who are interested in volunteering at any of these drills, please contact Nicole Gerber at 845-1731 or nicole.gerber@roswellpark.org. Many thanks for your time and assistance with these important emergency preparedness exercises!

Spread the Word!

The 2007 Emergency Preparedness Conference has been scheduled! Mark your calendars for Wednesday, October 31, 2007 and Thursday, November 1, 2007. The conference this year will be held at the Buffalo Niagara Convention Center in downtown Buffalo. This year’s theme is “Crossing Borders.” Information updates will be available at the Border Community SERVICE website: www.niagara.edu/bordercommunityservice.

COMING SOON: CERT Columns!! Writers, Your Help is Needed.

Future issues of BCS newsletters will include a column from at least one of the three CERT organizations in Niagara County: Greater Niagara Falls, Greater North Tonawanda, and Central Niagara County. Columns will contain meeting information, training schedules, and other pertinent information for CERT groups. If you’d like to write and can contribute, please call our office!