



WHATCOM COUNTY CERT NEWS

WHATCOM COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE
SHERIFF BILL ELFO, DIRECTOR

Mailing Address

311 GRAND AVENUE
Bellingham, WA 98225-4078
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DIVISION OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT
DOUG DAHL, DEPUTY DIRECTOR

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CERT is about readiness, people helping people, rescuer safety, and doing the greatest good for the greatest number.

"DON'T LEARN SAFETY BY ACCIDENT"

When did you last check your "72 Hour" Kit?

CERT CLASSES

Fall is upon us. And, as is normal, there are several CERT classes scheduled. So, if you know of anyone interested, there are a lot of opportunities to take or complete CERT.

ACME-WICKERSHAM

The class sponsored by the **Acme-Wickersham CERT** team was delayed. They did not have enough people sign up. However, I have since heard from a woman in Deming who **REALLY** is interested in taking the CERT class. She is talking to her neighbors so it might still be coming. Stay tuned

CERT 44

The BTC Class started last Tuesday evening. New CERT member **Kayla Grayson** is Admin Assistant. When the class convened, we had 5 more people than I expected. That was a truly pleasant surprise. This class meets on Tuesday evenings at 630 PM and finishes on November 23.

So, all of you folks who need a session or two to complete CERT, note the following schedule so you can make up the classes you missed.

- Session 2 – Prep II – 10/5
- Session 3 – Fire -10/12
- Session 4 – Medic I - 10/19
- Session 6 – SAR - 10/26
- Session 5 – Medic II – 11/2
- Session 7 – Psych/ICS - 11/9
- Session 8 – Table Top - 11/16
- Session 9 - Final – 11/23

With two exceptions, the sessions are held in room 103 of the Haskell Building on the BTC campus.

EXCEPTION 1, the fire session (Session 3) will be at the Fire District #8 headquarters on the corner of Bennett and Marine. Remember, bring your CERT safety gear to that session.

EXCEPTION 2, the final will be held at another location on the BTC campus.

Contact me if you are able to help with the final. I always can use observers and victims.

CERT 45

The Pt. Roberts CERT team (**Pt. Roberts Emergency Preparedness or PREP**) is sponsoring a compressed class to be held this weekend beginning Friday evening. They have a full house with 19 people signed up for this class.

Virginia Lester and Andrew Breiteneder are coordinating and teaching mentored by **Geri Chumley**.

Tentative schedule

Oct 1 – Sessions 1,2,7(a)
Oct 2 – Sessions 3,4,5,6
Oct 3 – Session 7(b), 8,9

There are a couple of people in the Pt. Roberts/Blaine area who need a few sessions to complete the training. This is a great opportunity to finish.

Contact **Virginia (945-2580)** if you can help with the final.

NOOKSACK TRIBE

The Nooksack Tribe is sponsoring a compressed class to be held over the weekend of October 8. It will be taught by representatives from the **Northwest Tribal Emergency Management Council (NWTEMC)**. This class is predominantly for tribal members and employees. However, if not all slots are filled, others may be allowed in.

Contact Nooksack Disaster Preparedness (**Glen Yorks** (glennyorks@yahoo.com)) for information.

CERT INSTRUCTORS

The above are the classes scheduled as of now. If any of you have a group interested in having a CERT class, contact me and we will set it up.

Remember, CERT instructors should be developing CERT classes. This is especially true in areas of the county where access to Bellingham is more difficult. You never know who will be in a position to save your life. Training can be the key.

CERT TRAINING AID

CERT 44 will be the first class in which we use our new fire extinguisher system. We have a signed Memorandum of Understanding with the leadership of **Whatcom County Fire District 8 (FD#8)**.

The FD#8 staff has used it twice and says it works great. When needed, CERT instructors will have to coordinate with FD#8 (733-6612) to access the equipment. FD#8 will help me teach Session 3 on October 12.

Sometime this fall, CERT Instructor Team Leader **Geri Chumley** would like to have all instructors be trained in the new system. Stay tuned.

WEATHER SPOTTER TRAINING

Seattle Warning Coordination Meteorologist **Ted Buehner** will be conducting Weather Spotter training in Kendall and Pt. Roberts on October 23.

Most of you know that I am a retired National Weather Service (NWS) forecaster. Our job was to issue forecasts and warnings to inform and alert people about upcoming weather.

The NWS has lots of tools at its disposal. However, nothing really can take the place of accurate and timely reports from people. This is especially true in the more remote areas. Trained spotters are invaluable in performing this task.

The Kendall training will start at 930 AM in the Peaceful Valley Club House. Contact **Veronica Dearden (599-1319)** for information.

The Pt. Roberts training will begin at 330 PM in the Community Center. Contact **Henry and Esther Rosenthal (945-1711)** for information.

October is Crime Prevention Month

Long-time partners in crime prevention, the National Crime Prevention Council (NCPC), National Sheriffs' Association (NSA) which sponsors **Neighborhood Watch**, and the Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA) are again teaming up on **Celebrate Safe Communities (CSC)**. This is an exciting initiative designed to help local law enforcement agencies and their community partners kick off celebrations of Crime Prevention Month. CSC is designed to spotlight community crime prevention

efforts, enhance public awareness of vital crime prevention and safety messages, and recruit year-round support for ongoing prevention activities that help keep neighborhoods safe from crime and prepared for any emergency. Please read more about CSC at www.ncpc.org/programs/celebrate-safe-communities].

ARE YOU READY? (from Joy)

School is back in session for the kids and what does that mean? GERMS! Influenza! And what can you do to prepare for an outbreak? First and foremost is to get a flu shot. Next is to plan for a pandemic:

- Store a two week supply of water and food. During a pandemic, if you cannot get to a store, or if stores are out of supplies, it will be important for you to have extra supplies on hand. This can be useful in other types of emergencies, such as power outages and disasters.
- Periodically check your regular prescription drugs to ensure a continuous supply in your home.
- Have any non-prescription drugs and other health supplies on hand, including pain relievers, stomach remedies, cough and cold medicines, fluids with electrolytes, and vitamins.

- Talk with family members and loved ones about how they would be cared for if they got sick, or what will be needed to care for them in your home.
- Volunteer with local groups to prepare and assist with emergency response.
- Get involved in your community as it works to prepare for an influenza pandemic.

LIMIT THE SPREAD OF GERMS AND PREVENT INFECTION:

- Avoid close contact with people who are sick. When you are sick, keep your distance from others to protect them from getting sick too.
- If possible, stay home from work, school and errands when you are sick. You will help prevent others from catching your illness.
- Cover your mouth and nose with a tissue when coughing or sneezing. It may prevent those around you from getting sick.
- Washing your hands often will help protect you from germs.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose or mouth. Germs are often spread when a person touches something that is contaminated with germs and then touches his or her eyes, nose or mouth.
- Practice other good health habits. Get plenty of sleep, be physically active, manage your stress, drink

plenty of fluids, and eat nutritious food.

FOR MORE INFORMATION go to the US Department of Health and Human Service's website about flu information and get printable materials such as:

- [Cover Your Cough](#)
- [Be a Germ Stopper: Healthy Habits Keep You Well](#)
- [Flu Prevention Toolkit: Real People, Real Solutions](#)
- [Stopping the Spread of Germs at Home, Work & School](#)

JENNY QUESTIONS

1. T/F The chair carry is recommended for an unconscious victim with a head injury.
2. T/F If a victim is safe and you suspect a head/back injury, it is probably best to not move them.
3. T/F A four hand seat carry is a great way to carry a conscious person who can use arms and hands to help.
4. T/F If you have enough people, the best way to move a victim is using a blanket carry.

Below are a couple of items I took from various messages that some of you might find interesting.

OUTDOOR SAFETY

I do not know if any of you are interested, but I received the following email a week ago and thought I would pass it along.

The Northwest Snow & Avalanche Summit is on Sunday, Nov. 7th at the Seattle Flagship REI Store from 8:00am to 5:00pm. (Registration will be occurring from 8:00am-8:30am.)

The Northwest Snow and Avalanche Summit (NSAS) is a professional development seminar for avalanche workers, and a continuing education opportunity for recreationalists. NSAS is intended for ski patrollers, forecasters, ski guides, search and rescue teams, as well as any number of other occupations that occur on and around snow.

Tickets may be purchased at: <http://www.brownpapertickets.com/event/130444>

Ticket Pricing~

Through October 7th: \$33.50

After October 7th: \$39.50

Nov 7th/Day of Event: \$45.00

NSAS is put on by the Alpine Safety Awareness Program. (<http://www.alpinesafety.org/>).

PET SAFE COALITION

I know many of you are interested in animals:

The Pet Safe Coalition is a nonprofit organization dedicated to making sure animals are safe during

disasters. Their motto is "Leave No Animal Behind." They are the first recognized County Animal Response Team (CART) in New York State and deal specifically with emergency management and disaster mitigation for animals. Among their goals, they strive to help owners keep pets safe when disaster strikes, raise public awareness about pet safety in disasters, and provide information resources to public officials. Read more about this organization at www.petsafecoalition.org.

Businesses With Preparedness Plans More Likely To Survive Disasters

One-fourth of all businesses that close because of a disaster never reopen, according to the Institute for Business and Home Safety. However, businesses that have and implement a disaster preparedness plan typically have less damage, loss and downtime than those that do not.

Have a business continuity plan that includes: a pre-identified relocation site; means to retrieve data, including employee, customer and vendor records; a strategy for contacting people, such as a call-down tree; and a method for operating effectively with a smaller staff of key individuals.

FEMA provides a step-by-step approach to emergency planning, response and

recovery for companies of all sizes in the Emergency Management Guide for Business and Industry, available free in the FEMA publication library.

JENNY ANSWERS

1. F - Don't want to use this with suspected head/back injuries.
2. T
3. T
4. F – The best way is for them to move themselves.

CONTINUING ED.

Don't forget, if you are interested in continuing your education, you can go to the National CERT homepage and view any of the new training videos that have been created. They are really good. I have been using them in the recent CERT classes. Go to <http://citizencorps.gov/cert>.

We currently have lost the WHATCOMCERT.ORG website. However, local CERT information can be found at

www.whatcomcounty.us/dem/educate/cert/cert.isp and

www.whatcomready.org/Get%20Involved%20CERT.html





**WHATCOM VOLUNTEER
CENTER**

(360) 734-3055 or
1-800-Volunteer
725 North State Street
Bellingham, WA 98225
info@whatcomvolunteer.org
www.whatcomvolunteer.org/

**MAKE A DIFFERENCE
DAY**

Saturday October 23 is **MAKE
A DIFFERENCE DAY** in
Whatcom County.

Contact Katy Nydam with any
questions at 360-734-3055 or
katyn@whatcomvolunteer.org.



THE AMERICAN RED CROSS

**ARC Courses
Contact the Mt. Baker
Chapter for more
Information – 733-3290**

***New! Open Shelter Locator
Map from the American Red
Cross***



Medical Reserve Corps

The Medical Reserve Corps is
a group of medical
professionals and others
prepared to volunteer their
skills during times of
community crisis.

360.676.6724 x #50852
<mailto:info@WhatcomMRC.org>
<http://www.whatcommrc.org/>

CONTINUING EDUCATION – See the latest
CERT News for current details.
**CHANGES ARE CONSTANT – CERT IS
FLEXIBLE**
Additional info: Bob Jacobson (phone
360-778-7163) or
bjacobso@co.whatcom.wa.us.

**TO VOLUNTEER for Booths and Special
Events:**
Contact Joy Krumdiack – Special Events
Volunteer Coordinator
Phone: 733-4555 (Work),
733-8259 (Home),
201-5899(Cell),
bryankr@msn.com