



## **Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) Training**

### **What is CERT?**

The Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) program helps to train people to be better prepared to respond to emergency situations in their communities. When emergencies happen, CERT members can give critical support to first responders, provide immediate assistance to victims and organize spontaneous volunteers at a disaster site. CERT members can also help with non-emergency projects that help improve the safety of the community.

### **Who can become a CERT Member?**

Almost any citizen can become a CERT member, regardless of age or physical ability. In Clinton County there are a few qualifications to become a member: Individuals must be at least 16 years of age (if under 18 parental consent required), Individuals must submit to a background check, and Individuals must attend all basic training classes.

### **What topics are covered in the CERT Program?**

Unit 1 – Disaster Preparedness	Unit 5 – Disaster Medical Operations 2
Unit 2 – Fire & Gas Safety	Unit 6 – CERT Organization, Disaster Psychology, Terrorism
Units 3 – Disaster Medical Operations 1	Unit 7 – Disaster Simulation
Units 4 – Light Search and Rescue	

### **What is the Class Schedule?**

We will work with your group to determine a class schedule. We are flexible and we will schedule classes when it works best for your group. The initial class takes a minimum of 20 hours, which can be broken up several different ways. For example, 2 - 8 hour Saturdays plus 1- 4 hour Saturday Class or 8 weeknight classes that meet for 3 hours each, or a combination of other times.

### **How can I sign up for a CERT Class?**

Fill out the following forms:

CERT Volunteer Enrollment Form & Authorization for Release of Information Agreement

All forms must be returned to the Emergency Management Office

(Clinton County Courthouse, 612 North 2<sup>nd</sup> Street, Suite 105, P.O. Box 2957, Clinton, IA 52733-2957)

*Priority will be given to groups of 5 or more individuals who create a Group/Team and sign up together. If you are signing up as a group, please turn in all of your paperwork together.*

Please note that class size is limited. Although we will try to accommodate as many people as possible in each class, not everyone who applies will be able to attend. Applications will be kept on file for up to one year, and applicants will be called as new classes are scheduled.