Emergency Preparedness Resources Are Available at Your Fingertips

Do you want to learn more about emergency preparedness? Are you looking for high quality material to share with your children, neighbors, and colleagues? You can find it at your fingertips because a wealth of free emergency preparedness information is available online.

An truly outstanding resource with material suited for businesses, children, and all Americans including seniors and those with disabilities is www.ready.gov.

If you’d like to have emergency alerts sent to your computer or cell phone, you may want to register at www.emergencyemail.org.

Do you have questions about bird flu? The answers will be found by visiting www.PandemicFlu.gov.

American Red Cross articles and advice on emergency readiness can be found at www.redcross.org. For news from the ARC Greater Buffalo Chapter, visit www.buffaloredcross.org. The website for the ARC Niagara Falls Chapter can be found at www.niagarafallsredcross.org. The ARC Eastern Niagara County Chapter posts training opportunities and other news at www.redcrossncc.org.

A comprehensive list of online courses can be found at www.training.fema.gov/IS/. IS-100: Introduction to Incident Command System presents essential information for anyone who’s interested in being part of an emergency response system. Some localities require everyone, including volunteers, to have completed both IS-100 and IS-700 before they’re allowed to participate in an emergency response.

Niagara County CERT Teams Organize and List Goals

The Town of Cambria VFD hosted an organizational meeting of the Central Niagara County CERT Team on April 21 and Columbia Hook & Ladder Fire Co. in North Tonawanda hosted the first meeting of Greater North Tonawanda CERT on April 28.

The CERT Volunteers who attended these meetings had goals and concerns similar to those expressed in March at the organizational meeting of the Greater Niagara Falls CERT Team.

During small group activities volunteers created an amazing list of their skills, including foreign languages, computer skills, and ham radio training, that would be very helpful to first responders in emergencies.

Volunteers set their priorities as the design and distribution of Photo IDs, the development of contact systems and training & drill schedules, and finding ways to fund CERT Training for future volunteers after the BCS grant ends.

SPECIAL ALERT: Last Call for “Community First Aid & Safety”

Columbia Hook & Ladder Fire Co. at 84 Marion Street in North Tonawanda graciously offered to host the ARC “Community First Aid & Safety course” from 6 to 9 PM on Tuesday evenings in May. The course begins with Adult CPR with AED Skills on May 15., continues with Infant & Child CPR on May 22, and ends with First Aid Basics on May 29.

Pre-registration is required and space is limited to first time participants. Please call 205-0070 to enroll.
Volunteer Opportunities

Letter Carriers’ Food Drive
Saturday, May 12, 2007

The United Way has asked for your help with the annual Letter Carriers’ Food Drive. If you can help, even for a few hours, please call Jennifer or Phil at 285-8461. Volunteers will be asked to report to either the Main Street or the LaSalle Post Office on Saturday, May 12th at 9 AM. Please be sure to wear either your red BCS T-shirt or your white CERT T-shirt.

Memorial Day Parade
Saturday, May 26, 2007

The Niagara Falls Veterans Coalition has invited CERT-trained individuals who reside in communities served by Greater Niagara Falls CERT (City of Niagara Falls and Towns of Niagara, Lewiston and Youngstown) to participate in the 2007 Memorial Day Parade in Niagara Falls, New York on Saturday, May 26, 2007.

Line up for the parade will be at 10:00 AM at Pine Avenue and 19th Street. The parade will start at 11:00 AM. Please contact the BCS office by Friday, May 11 if you’d like to participate in this parade as a member of Greater Niagara Falls CERT. Depending on your response, a decision about participating in the parade as a unit will be made then.

Thunder of Niagara Training Exercise
Saturday, June 9, 2007

Many thanks to more than 100 volunteers who accepted the invitation to participate in this Saturday, June 9, 2007 event. In preparation for the “Thunder of Niagara” Air Show in August, the Air Refueling Wing Niagara Falls ARS, NY will conduct an emergency training exercise and drill. To ensure a quality training experience, a very large group of volunteer “spectators” is needed from 9 AM to Noon to be “actors” as the emergency unfolds and “chaos” follows.

To allow volunteers to gain access to the Air Force Base, we were asked to provide an advance roster of volunteers. The recent tragic loss of a Blue Angels pilot highlights the very real importance of preparedness drills. Thanks for your help!

Please remember to call (716 205-0070) or to email the Border Community SERVICE office (nch@niagara.edu) to report your volunteer hours. The hours are needed for our funding agency reports and your help is greatly appreciated!

RECRUITS WANTED

IF YOU ARE ABLE TO VOLUNTEER YOUR TIME ON SOME WEEKENDS AND HOLIDAYS THEN WE NEED YOU TO BE PART OF THE TEAM

NIAGARA COUNTY AUXILIARY POLICE

Over 50 Years Of Dedicated Volunteer Service To The Community And Law Enforcement

CONTACT US VIA
NIAGARA COUNTY EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT
PHONE 716-438-3176
FAX 716-438-3173
AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY ORGANIZATION

Joseph Hearn, co-author of If Something Happens to Me, suggests that the following items be included in your Grab-and-Go Case:

- Copy of will and/or trust documents
- Copy of powers of attorney
- Computer user names & passwords
- Emergency contact list
- Recent investment statements
- Copy of recent tax return
- Checking & saving account numbers
- Social Security cards
- Passports & other identification
- Prescription list
- Emergency cash
- Safe combination
- Safe-deposit box key
- Copy of driver’s license
- Copies of the declaration page of insurance policies
- Copies of marriage/birth/adoption/citizenship certificates
- List of credit card numbers & company contact information