

CERT Alert

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CERT volunteered at EFN in February 2022 repackaging food to be distributed to local food pantries!

This quarter we did a Take and Make training to make shin guards and a tourniquet with items around you!
 Check it out here: https://us02web.zoom.us/rec/share/K-G66MoQpdLO3mUpwPEo-jBhTrCpVsr_irAa-U-4A18A6Z1S4TR14Qkh_2865EPr.53ARtmHH0eeX-I3c
 Passcode: q!a=4x%h



Adopt A Street Cleanup 2/26/2022

Rain or shine, CERT is always ready to take care of our Adopted Street by picking up the litter with a smile on their face!

Functional Assessment Service Team

Pierce County

FAST provides trained staff to conduct functional assessments of shelter clients in general population shelters. The assessments focus on ensuring the shelter has the resources to support people with disabilities and/or access and functional needs, such as durable medical equipment, consumable medical supplies, and essential prescribed medication.



Why do we need a FAST Program?

- * 61.4 million people reported having some kind of disability
- * The Access and Functional needs are different than having a disability, and thus becomes a larger community to care for.
- * The FAST program is not about identifying disabilities but understanding functional issues

The FAST Mission:

- * Retention of independence and inclusion
- * Strengthen community resilience after a disaster
- * Assess needs and offer support
- * Be creative in addressing problems

FAST is made up of trained, deployable team members

There are three levels in the FAST program:

- * FAST Coordinators
- * Team Leads
- * Responders

FAST consists of members with experience in the following areas:

- Aging (services/supports, including dietary needs)
- Chronic health conditions
- Developmental & other cognitive disabilities (i.e. Traumatic Brain Injury, intellectual)
- Hearing loss
- Mental health disabilities
- Physical disabilities
- Substance abuse
- Vision loss

Pierce County has a FAST team and generally holds new member trainings twice a year. For more information on Pierce County FAST and contact information, visit:

<https://www.piercecountywa.gov/995/Functional-Assessment-Service-Teams-FAST>

Ivan Tudela is the director and can be reached at:
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Disasters in History: SR530 Landslide

On March 22, 2014 there was a landslide in Oso, Washington. A landslide is when a mass of mud and other material from the earth is falling or has fallen down a hillside or slope. 43 people were killed in the landslide. Search and rescue efforts began almost immediately after the landslide occurred. The National Guard troop arrived three days later to help with the search and rescue efforts for those who were still

unaccounted for after the initial three day search. Rescue teams searched through mud that was several stories deep. The mud had a thickness that was similar to freshly poured concrete.

Officials confirmed a 1.1 magnitude earthquake on March 10, 2014. The earthquake along with heavy rains was believed to be the cause of the landslide.



Before and After the SR530 Landslide—Courtesy of NBC News



Decimated highway after SR530 Landslide—picture from worldvision.org

Community Emergency Response Teams played a role in the SR530 Landslide. Hundreds of volunteers showed up to assist in the search and rescue efforts, and many of those volunteers were CERT Volunteers. CERT found and recovered a significant number of remains and it was volunteers who brought in dump trucks and heavy equipment.

An interview with Thomas Richardson, a battalion chief for the Seattle Fire Department and WA Task Force on the use of CERT in the SR530 Landslide can be found here:

<https://www.govtech.com/em/disaster/lessons-learned-response-oso-wash-mudslide.html>

*Remember, to wait until you are called upon to deploy. Self deployment can be unsafe for you and others involved.



June 15th, 2022

Cascadia Subduction Zone Earthquake Exercise (Cascadia Rising 2022) will focus on critical components to a catastrophic earthquake, including state, local, tribal, federal, Department of Defense, Emergency Management Assistance Compact, non-profit, and private-sector participation across the States of Washington, Oregon, and Idaho, with additional support from Alaska. The Core Capabilities for this exercise will be: Critical Transportation, Critical Infrastructure, Mass Care Services, and Supply Chain Integrity and Security. The State of Washington will focus the exercise on +96 hours into the event.

About the Cascadia Subduction Zone (CSZ) Earthquake: A 9.0 magnitude Cascadia Subduction Zone (CSZ) earthquake ripping across the 700-mile CSZ fault line occurs on average once every 200 to 500 years. The last major CSZ earthquake and tsunami occurred in 1700. Recent subduction zone fault earthquakes around the world underscore the similar challenges we will face when the next CSZ earthquake and tsunami occurs in our region:

- Indonesia (2004): M9.1; 228,000 deaths
- Chile (2010): M8.8; 500 deaths

Northeast Japan (2011): M9.0; 18,000 deaths

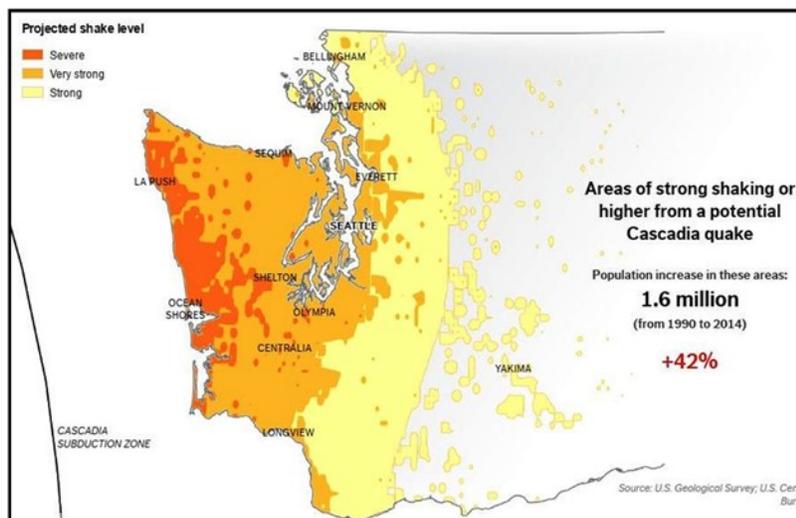
*The Magnitude will feel like a 7.2 in Lakewood and University Place with 4.5 minutes of shaking.

The West Pierce Emergency Management Coalition (City of Lakewood, City of University Place, Town of Steilacoom, and West Pierce), will be opening up a joint Emergency Operation

Center on June 15th. West Pierce CERT will participate virtually by sending in Damage Assessment forms and updates about what is doing on in your neighborhood. Active CERT members will be contacted and briefed about various roles, injects, and time lines. If you absolutely would like to participate in this drill, please email

Serena.Rotondo@westpierce.org to sign up.

More information on Cascadia Rising 2022 can be found at: <https://mil.wa.gov/cascadia-rising>



Meet your CERT Team Leaders!

CERT Team Leaders are the central point of coordination for their teams, as well as the focal point for communication to and from responsible parties. During a disaster there will be a chain of command. Team members should communicate to their team leaders and team leaders will communicate with Rachel. Teams in West Pierce CERT are based on location. If you have any questions on who your team leader is please reach out to Serena!

East Lakewood Team Leaders

Nancy Anderson



Tell us about yourself, including hobbies, interests, and what you do for fun.

I've lived here for 54 years. I play piano, used to teach music, love reading, and seriously garden. I have over 400 varieties of plants/flowers in the gardens. I also love to play games- even on the iPad.

What made you decide to take the CERT program?

I just wanted to be prepared in case of disaster. It would be awful to face something like that and not know what to do.

What is your favorite CERT memory?

I loved the stories our firefighters told in class - they were very good teachers. Putting out a fire with an extinguisher was fun too.

How long have you been with CERT and what is the most valuable thing you have gotten out of your involvement with CERT through the years?

I took the class in 2015. The most helpful part was what they taught us NOT to do, and why.

Tami McKerrow



Tell us about yourself, including hobbies, interests, and what you do for fun.

I work as an accountant/bookkeeper but have a Master's degree in Organizational

Leadership. I would have to say my hobbies are watching T.V. and YouTube. I am a history nerd – just don't ask me to spit out facts. I take in the big picture rather than the minute facts. I love music and try to attend as many live performances as possible. Genre doesn't really matter – I like pretty much all music.

What made you decide to take the CERT program?

My main reason for joining CERT was to be able to help in my community. Not just volunteering but the physical aspect of basic search and rescue; and, what to do in an emergency.

What is your favorite CERT memory?

My favorite CERT memory was when we were doing traffic control for a COVID testing day in U.P. I didn't have sunscreen or a hat on and got sunburned (of course). I had mask lines on my face for two weeks!!

How long have you been with CERT and what is the most valuable thing you have gotten out of your involvement with CERT through the years?

I have been in CERT since September 2019 (CERT Team #44). I would say that during these last two years, the most valuable thing I've gotten from CERT is just being part of a team. I am usually a very solitary person and I forget how rewarding working with a team can be.

Meet your CERT Team Leaders!

West Lakewood Team Leaders



Anne Gardner

Tell us about yourself, including hobbies, interests, and what you do for fun.

My time is consumed by special needs animal rescue and supporting

animal causes. Lots of work, and sometimes it's even fun!

If I had spare time I would get back to sewing and other creative activities.

What made you decide to take the CERT program?

It seemed wise to better educate myself on how to protect myself and others during a catastrophic event.

What is your favorite CERT memory?

The visit Sue H. and I had with a frightened little bat in the drill tower before he flew free. :-).

How long have you been with CERT and what is the most valuable thing you have gotten out of your involvement with CERT through the years?

I took the class about 6-1/2 years ago. It has given me more confidence in certain foreign situations, and I value the camaraderie and volunteer spirit of my fellow CERTs.

Anything else you would like to add?

I'm looking forward to getting back to a "normal" CERT schedule...or, if I'm honest, just NORMAL!

Shawn Hill



Tell us about yourself, including hobbies, interests, and what you do for fun.

I am a life long volunteer because I like helping people. I have worked

with the Girl Scouts, the local school district and with a number of recreational organizations in the area. I love to travel and enjoy it most with family and close friends. I like going to sports events like MMA matches, basketball and football games for the grand kids and pros alike.

What made you decide to take the CERT program?

I decided to take the CERT program when my best friend said she was interested in being of service to her family and community in the event of a disaster. I agreed wholeheartedly and so we joined West Pierce's CERT group.

What is your favorite CERT memory?

My favorite CERT memory was from our initial training when I got to extinguish a fire.

How long have you been with CERT and what is the most valuable thing you have gotten out of your involvement with CERT through the years?

I have been with CERT for two years and the most valuable thing I have gotten out of my involvement with CERT is a deeper understanding of community emergency procedures.

Meet your CERT Team Leaders!

West Lakewood Team Leader



John Machado

Tell us about yourself, including hobbies, interests, and what you do for fun.

I'm a Journeyman carpenter. I own a graphic design company. Army vet. My company has designed graphics for the Olympics and for the Jonas Brothers. I love spending time with my family. Me and my son both Race BMX. I love to fish and BBQ.

What made you decide to take the CERT program?

I was part of CERT 41. I wanted to be able to help when needed. I have skills that I hope don't ever need to be used. But if they are, I'm ready!

What is your favorite CERT memory?

Favorite CERT memory was the final. Everyone working together to accomplish one goal. To me, That was the most amazing thing to see. Everyone finding their inner soldier. Working as a unit. Yet individually being able to get there task done.

How long have you been with CERT and what is the most valuable thing you have gotten out of your involvement with CERT through the years?

I did the program I believe in 2019. In the last 2 years I have moved from an assistant team lead. To our West Lakewood CERT leader. So The Most valuable thing I took away was the leadership.

Anything else you would like to add?

I have found myself using skills I have picked up from CERT. From putting out fires on the side of the freeway. To MVA incidences and triage. I thank the CERT program for everything they have passed along in the training. Thank you

University Place North Team Leader

Roger Lyons

Tell us about yourself, including hobbies, interests, and what you do for fun.

I'm originally from Ohio and joined the US Army after graduating from high school. After 15 years of travelling around the world and the country compliments of the Army, I settled down in Tacoma. I've been married for 17 years to Kristin Lyons and we joined CERT together. I'm currently semi-retired after 22 years in IT. My hobbies include gardening and mineral prospecting.

What made you decide to take the CERT program?

My wife and I joined CERT together, along with a friend of ours, because we wanted to serve our community and "pay it forward".

What is your favorite CERT memory?

We joined CERT just before the pandemic so our experiences are limited. However, I recently participated in a emergency response exercise in Puyallup and had a great day playing different characters to help make the exercise as real as possible.

How long have you been with CERT and what is the most valuable thing you have gotten out of your involvement with CERT through the years?

I've been involved since just before the pandemic.

The City of Lakewood launched an emergency notification system, “Lakewood Alerts.” Much like PC Alerts, citizens can subscribe to receive instant texts and email alerts in the event of an emergency that provide vital safety information. You can opt in to receive Emergency and non-Emergency alerts. If you live or work or have loved ones in Lakewood, please take a moment to sign up. While you may be signed up for PC Alerts, the time it takes for a message to be approved and sent to citizens is not always timely. With Lakewood Alerts, Lakewood has direct control on sending out emergency notifications. <https://cityoflakewood.us/lakewood-alert/>

The City of University Place has utilized the CodeRED platform for years. If you live or work, or have loved ones in U.P., you can sign up here: <https://www.cityofup.com/168/CodeRED-Pierce-County-Alert>

Upcoming Dates!

* **Comm Academy Training – April 9th, 2022**

Please let Serena know if you attend so she can count volunteer hours. More information can be found on their webpage: <https://www.commacademy.org/>

* **Emergency Food Network Repack Project—April 14th, 2022: 12:00 pm–2:30pm**

At EFN, CERT repackages bulk food items into smaller, family sized portions to help provide Pierce County with a consistent, diverse, and nutritious food supply so that no person goes hungry. **Please email Serena if you are interested in volunteering!**

* **Healthy Kids Day/ Disaster Prep Day at the YMCA—April 30th, 2022, 9am-11am**

If you are interested in participating, please email Serena. More details are to follow.

* **CERT Quarterly Training—April 27th, 2022 5:00pm-8:00pm at Station 31, 3631 Drexler Drive West University Place, WA 98466**

We are finally able to hold an in person get together after over two years of not being able to see each other! To celebrate, we will have CERT trivia and food. **If you are interested in attending, please email Serena so we can get an idea of how many people will be there!**

* **Emergency Food Network Hunger Walk—May 7th, 2022**

A fellow CERT member created a team to do the EFN Hunger Walk on May 7, 2022. This is completely optional and there is a \$20 entry fee. Here is the link if you are interested in registering. <https://runsignup.com/Race/WA/Lakewood/EFNHungerWalk> Be sure to select the team “West Pierce CERT Crew,” when prompted to do so.

* **Memorial Day Flag Placement at Mtn. View Funeral Home—Date TBA (sometime at the end of May)**

Please email Serena if you are interested, and more details will be announced soon.



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