

CERT ALERT



West Pierce CERT has a new logo!
New gear coming soon....



West Pierce CERT has shown that we are dedicated to keeping our street on Steilacoom Blvd. between Farwest Dr. and 87th Ave. clean and have been awarded our Adopt A Street sign!

Table of Contents

Covid-19 Vaccine Information from the Tacoma Pierce County Health Department 2-3

 The Great Sendai Earthquake 4

 Shake Alert 5

Everbridge Mass Communication..... 6

National Volunteer Week 7

2020 National Household Survey 8

Upcoming Dates 9

On February 6, 2021 West Pierce CERT volunteered to do another street cleanup. We endured the rainy weather and filled up 8 bags with debris from the side of the road.

Covid-19 Vaccine

What are the side effects of the vaccine?

Side effects are common and mean the vaccine is working.

Common side effects may include:

- ◆ Injection site pain, redness, or swelling; tiredness, headaches, muscle pain, chills, joint pain, fever, nausea, and swelling of lymph nodes.
- ◆ They usually occur within the first 3 days of vaccination
- ◆ They should resolve within 1-2 days of onset.

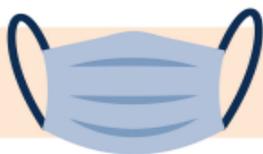
What if I have an adverse (harmful) reaction?

Severe adverse reactions are rare. However, if you think you are experiencing any adverse reaction be sure to report it to your healthcare provider.

If it is a life threatening emergency, call 911.

Will I still need to take other precautions?

Yes, after you receive the vaccine you will still need to wear a mask, limit gatherings, and practice physical distancing until enough people are vaccinated, and we understand how long protection lasts.



Wear a mask.



Stay 6 feet apart.



Wash your hands.

Sue Hawkins (CERT36), volunteered at the February 24th vaccination clinic in DuPont. When asked about the experience, Sue had this to say, "It was a long day, but I really enjoyed it. It went pretty smooth. They had extra shots at the end and called people to come in to fill the spots or took many who were in line at the end. So many elders came thru and did not have actual appts. They just got the email "You are qualified to get a shot" and thought it was their shot /time confirmations. We were able to get them their shots with the extra available ones. It was fun being able to help so many who were so worried about being able to get a shot. I even had many of them laughing. We were thanked over and over again for putting ourselves on the line to help. I had a great day!"



Sue playing victim at the CERT 43 drill in 2019

Thank you Sue for volunteering and representing WPFR CERT! Requests from Pierce County DEM for volunteers come with short notice, be sure to monitor your email for more volunteer opportunities.

The Great Sendai Earthquake

On March 11, 2011 Japan experienced a magnitude 9 earthquake off the northeastern coast on Japan's main island, Honshu. The earthquake was named the Great Sendai Earthquake. Hundreds of aftershocks were felt ranging from magnitude 6 to a magnitude 7, days and weeks after the main earthquake. This caused a series of large tsunami waves, and the tsunami instigated a major nuclear incident accident at the power station located along the coast. The Great Sendai Earthquake is considered one of the most powerful earthquakes.



A tsunami engulfing a residential area in Natori, Miyagi on March 11, 2011. Picture credit: Britannica



Left: Wreckage from the Great Sendai Earthquake Right: Damaged containment buildings at the Fukushima Daiichi nuclear power plant.

Picture Credit: Britannica

Update on The Great Sendai Earthquake in 2021:

On February 13, 2021, 10 years after the 9.0 magnitude earthquake in Japan, a 7.1 magnitude earthquake struck the same area of Japan, making it an aftershock of The Great Sendai Earthquake in 2011. Unlike the original earthquake in 2011, no tsunami warning was issued following the aftershock.

Since The Great Sendai Earthquake, authorities are still cleaning up the area. It is expected that cleanup from the 2011 earthquake will take a few more decades to complete.

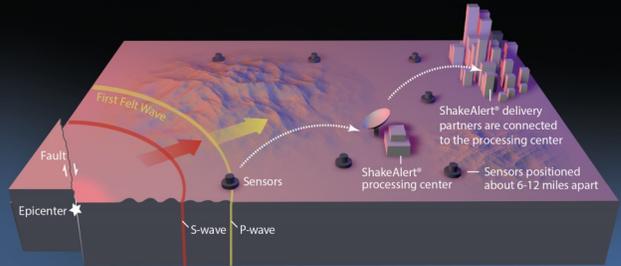


Damaged buildings in Fukushima, Japan after the February 13, 2021 aftershock. Picture credit: CNN

The 2021 Olympic Games Torch ceremony will start in Fukushima to symbolize the recovery and rebuilding of that area, 10 years after the original earthquake and now for the most recent aftershock in the area.

Japan wants to showcase their resilience after The Great Sendai Earthquake in 2011 and their continued recovery.

ShakeAlert™



The ShakeAlert® Earthquake Early Warning (EEW) system in Washington state will be providing public alerts in **May of 2021**. Partners on the West Coast have been working on earthquake early warning for quite some time as the monitoring system continues to be expanded and testing continues.

The ShakeAlert® Earthquake Early Warning system quickly detects earthquakes after they have already begun. If an earthquake fits the right profile of magnitude and shaking intensity, the US Geological Survey (USGS) issues a ShakeAlert Message and makes it available to distribution partners, like WEA, who deliver alerts to areas that could feel weak or greater shaking.

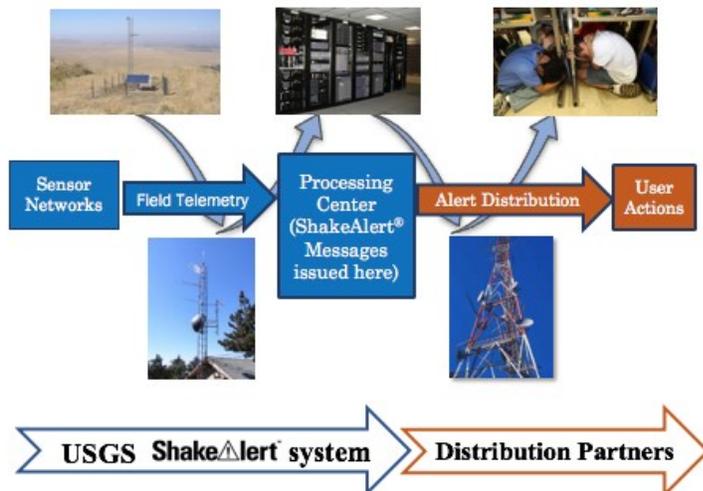
This may potentially provide people seconds to protect themselves, such as drop, cover and hold on.

The Earthquake Early Warning system is already operational for some automatic action systems such as water and utility valve shut off and public address systems. The Earthquake Early Warning system detects earthquakes quickly, so alerts can be delivered to trigger automated actions, such as slowing a train, opening fire station doors, or telling people to take protective action before shaking begins. ShakeAlert® messages are sent from the U.S. Geological Survey and are delivered to mobile devices on several different systems.

If shaking is expected at your location, you may get a Wireless Emergency Alert (WEA) on your mobile device, just like an AMBER alert, or you may get an alert as a public announcement. The Wireless Emergency Alert system broadcasts public safety messages over the commercial cellular system.

*For more information visit:
<https://mil.wa.gov/alerts>

West Coast Earthquake Early Warning System Components





West Pierce Fire & Rescue uses an internal mass communication tool known as Everbridge or PC-WARN (internal). Pierce County uses the same system, Everbridge or PC-ALERT (external) to contact citizens. You may currently be signed up for PC-ALERTS to receive emergency alerts from Pierce County. The system is versatile and can be utilized in the event of a disaster to push out critical information or to simply notify personnel of upcoming committee meetings, etc. Through Everbridge, multiple means of communication are used. For WPFR, it's a text message, email, and/or phone call.

For example: If there was an earthquake, Chief may send out a message to all WPFR personnel to report their status. Everbridge would first send the Chief's message to your mobile phone as a text. The message would ask you to text back(1) if you are ok or (2) you need help (or some variation of that). If you do not text back within a designated time, Everbridge will use the next delivery method and so on. This allows the sender to track who the message was sent to and who has or has not responded.

If you are on the WPFR "Active" CERT list, meaning you are contacted for trainings, events, and responses. You will be added to the WPFR CERT Everbridge System. The WPFR CERT Everbridge will be utilized to send out **CERT emergency response requests, CERT communication drills**, and/or **Important information**. Trainings, events, and general updates will still be sent via email. For now, WPFR CERT Everbridge will be used sparingly, for the uses listed above. Your mobile phone number for texts or calls, this email address, and your home phone will be added.

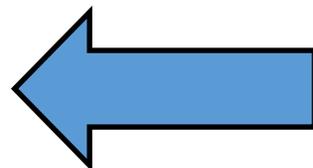
★ The information we have on file is the same as when you filled out your CERT application when you enrolled in the basic CERT course (unless you have contacted us of any updates). If your contact information has changed, please let us know. **Once everyone is in the system, we will conduct a communication drill so you can see how the system works. Information about the drill will come out in advance.**



Pierce County
PIERCE COUNTY ALERT!
Public Safety Officials can send emergency messages to traditional landlines and cell phones that are registered with Pierce County Emergency Management.

IF WE CAN'T REACH YOU WE CAN'T ALERT YOU
Register today...
• www.piercecountywa.gov/ALERT
• text PCALERT to 888-777
• call 253-798-6595

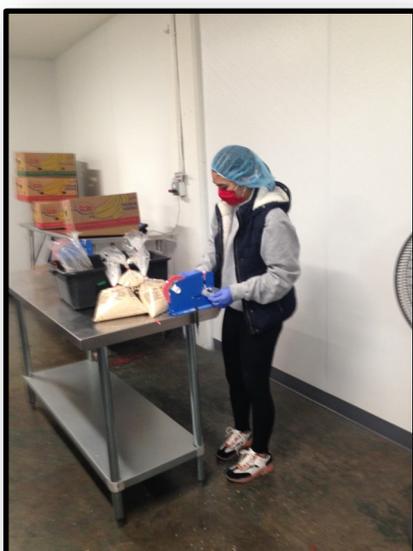
If you haven't already... Sign-Up!



National Volunteer Week

April 18– April 24, 2021

Volunteer service not only impacts volunteers but the communities they serve. Volunteering is not easy. To be a volunteer you have to create time in your busy schedule. National Volunteer Week was created to recognize the impact that volunteers have on their community. We want to thank all of our CERT volunteers for always rising to the occasion and volunteering when the community needs it. We also want to thank you for being dedicated to preparing yourself and your family for disasters.



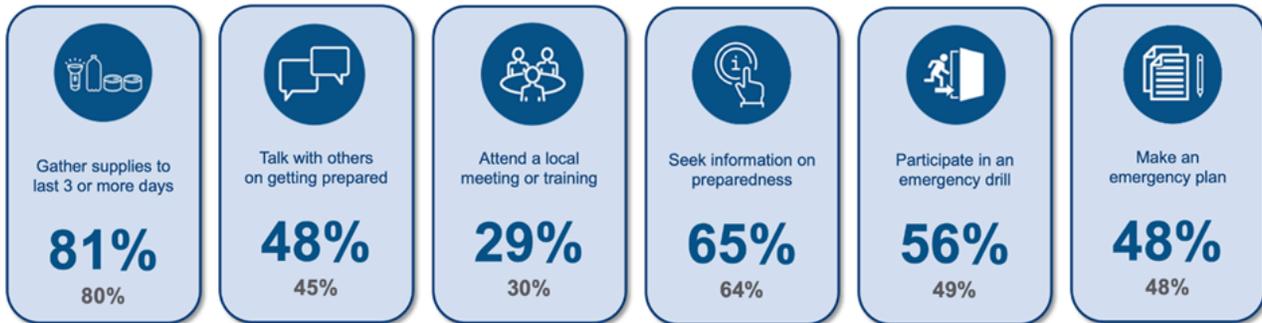
2020 National Household Survey



FEMA

Since 2007, FEMA has conducted the National Household Survey (NHS) to assess the development of a culture of personal disaster preparedness and resilience in the American public. Specifically, the NHS measures individual preparedness attitudes and behaviors and investigates what factors influence individuals to begin preparing for a future hazard. The NHS includes 5,000 respondents including both a large representative national level sample and a series of smaller hazard-specific samples.

Six basic preparedness actions lay the groundwork for pursuing other actions



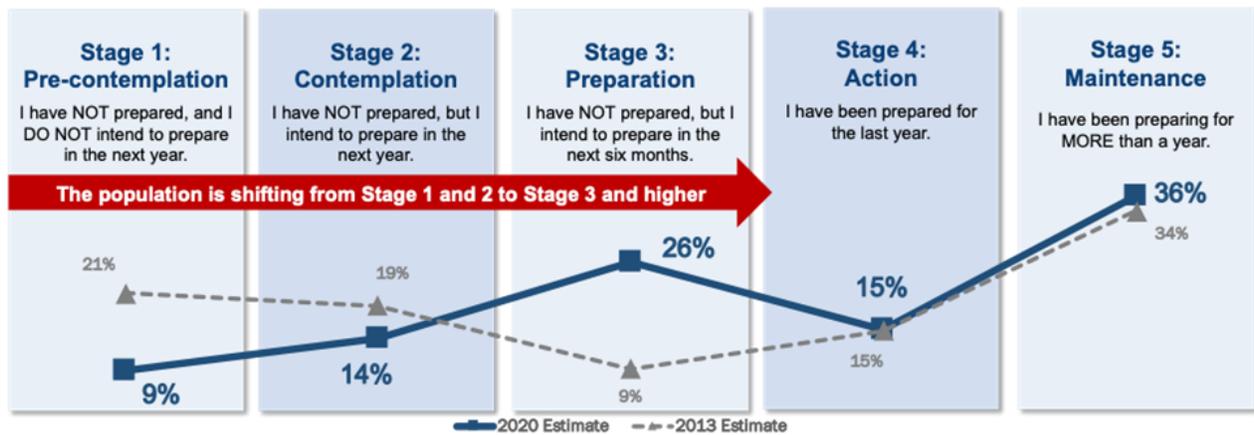
Legend: Blue = 2020 NHS; Gray = 2019 NHS

In 2020, **68%** took three or more of these six preparedness actions.

In 2019, **62%** took three or more of these six preparedness actions.

Measuring Preparedness Behavior Change in America-The Stages of Change

What stage of the continuum are you in?



*For the full Report, visit: <https://community.fema.gov/story/2020-NHS-Data-Digest-Summary-Results>

Upcoming Trainings and Volunteer Opportunities

Active Threat Class Via Zoom

March 24, 2021 @ 6pm:

Deputy Hacker's presentation will focus on ways to identify and respond to an active shooter. Learn how to keep yourself safe during an active threat situation.

Please share this opportunity with your family and friends. To RSVP, email: serena.rotondo@westpierce.org



Comm Academy 2021

April 10th and 11th, 2021

A free emergency communications and amateur radio conference with the theme: Disasters Here, There, and Everywhere—Are We Ready? Pre-register at:

<https://www.commacademy.org/>

Adopt-A-Street Clean Up

May 19, 2021, 9-12pm

4-6 volunteers needed. To sign-up, contact Serena.



Badge Renewal Process: The CERT SOGs state that you must attend two trainings or one training and one public event in the year that your badge expires. However, an exception is being made:

If your badge has expired and you want to remain an active member we ask that you complete a refresher quiz and fill out a background check form. **If you would like a link to the refresher quiz and a copy of the background check form, please email serena.rotondo@westpierce.org.**



Serena Rotondo

AmeriCorps/ Citizen Preparedness Coordinator

Serena.rotondo@westpierce.org

253-983-4580 | fax 253-582-7912



Rachel Adler

Emergency Preparedness Coordinator

Rachel.adler@westpierce.org

253-983-4564 | fax 253-582-7912