CERT Organization

CERT Basic Training
Unit 6
Unit Objectives

- Describe the CERT structure
- Identify how CERTs interrelate with ICS
- Explain documentation requirements
Unit Topics

- CERT Organization
- Mobilization
- Documentation
Principles of Onscene Management

- Maintain the safety of disaster workers
- Provide clear leadership and organizational structure
- Improve effectiveness of rescue efforts
CERT Onscene Management

- Well-defined management structure
- Manageable span of control
- Common terminology
- Effective communication
- Consolidated action plans
- Comprehensive resource management
- Accountability
Objectives for On-Scene Management

1. Identify scope of incident
2. Determine overall strategy
3. Deploy resources
4. Document actions and results
CERT Operations

- Command structure
- CERT Incident Commander/Team Leader (IC/TL)
- Command Post
- Expanded structure as needed
Dealing with the Media

- Refer media inquiries to CERT IC/TL
- Do not let media inhibit CERT goals
- Be careful about information released
NIMS Compliance

- Ability to work together
- IS-100.a: Introduction to ICS
- IS-700.b: Introduction to NIMS
- http://training.fema.gov/IS/NIMS.asp
CERT Mobilization

- CERTs take care of themselves, their families, their homes, their neighbors
- Proceed to predesignated staging area
- IC/TL is established, organizes the group
- IC/TL prioritizes actions
- Organization is flexible and evolves based on new information
Rescuer Safety

- Rescuer safety is first priority
- Heavy damage = No rescue
- Moderate damage = Locate, triage, evacuate
- Light damage = Locate, triage, continue sizeup, and document
Section Chiefs
- Provide Command Post with information

Command Post
- Documents situation status
  - Incident locations
  - Access routes
  - Identified hazards
  - Support locations
Write it down!
Documentation Forms

- Damage Assessment
- Personnel Resources Sign-In
- Incident/Assignment Tracking Log
- Briefing Assignment
- Victim Treatment Area Record
- Communications Log
- Equipment Inventory
- General Message
Documentation Flow

Command Post

Incident/Assignment Tracking Log
Documentation Flow

Arriving CERT volunteers

Command Post

Staging/Logistics

Functional Teams

Damage Assessments

Incident Assignment Tracking Log

Incident Briefing

Personnel Resources Sign-In
Documentation Flow

Arriving CERT volunteers
- Damage Assessments

Command Post
- Incident/Assignment Tracking Log

Staging/Logistics
- Incident Briefing
- Personnel Resources Sign-In

Functional Teams

Victim Treatment Area
- Victim Treatment Area Record
Documentation Flow

Arriving CERT volunteers
- Damage Assessments

Command Post
- Incident/Assignment Tracking Log

Communications
- Log

Staging/Logistics
- Incident Briefing
- Personnel Resources Sign-In

Functional Teams
- Victim Treatment Area

Equipment
- Inventory

Victim Treatment Area
- Victim Treatment Area Record

CERT Basic Training
Unit 6: CERT Organization
ICS provides flexible means of organization
“Is it safe to attempt the rescue?”
Document and communicate information to all CERT levels
Provide Command Post with ongoing information about damage assessment, group status, and needs
Command Post documents and tracks situation status
Homework Assignment

1. Read unit to be covered in next session
2. Bring necessary supplies to next session
3. Wear appropriate clothes to next session