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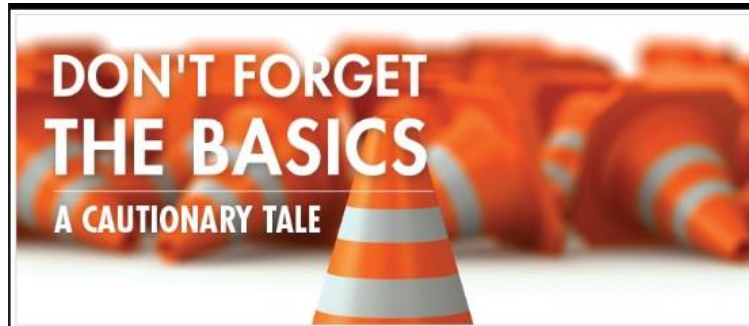
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By – Trish Billings

As I am writing this article, DuPage County just had a Tornado warning! Yes a Tornado warning in February! Marty & I headed downstairs to a room with four cylinder black walls for safety or until they called off the warning. The all clear signal came and we went back upstairs. It is unusual to hear of a Tornado warning in February, but it did happen. I want to remind us to get back to the basics of preparedness. Preparedness starts at home. How many of you have a NOAA Weather Radio? When the warning sounds come, what do you do?



Let us go back to the basics, what do you do? If you are in a home or small business:

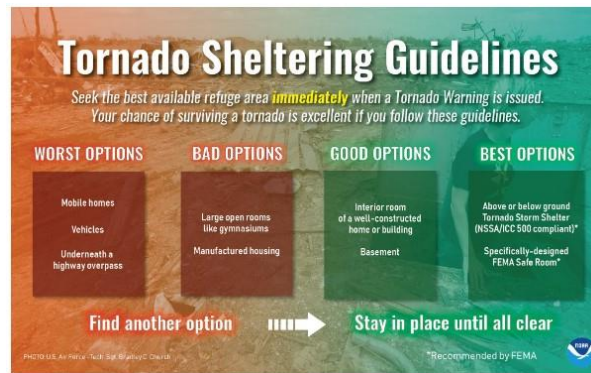


Go to the basement or a small interior room such as a closet, bathroom, or interior hallway without windows on the lowest level. Put as many walls between yourself and the outside as

possible. If possible, get under something sturdy, such as a heavy table, or use a mattress to protect yourself from flying debris. Most injuries associated with high winds are from flying debris, so remember to protect your head. If available, put on a bicycle or motorcycle helmet to protect yourself from head injuries.

If you are in a large business, school, hospital, shopping center, or factory:

Go to the designated shelter area. If a shelter area is not available, the best place is to go to an interior hallway on the lowest level. Stay away from the structurally weaker portions of buildings, such as windows and rooms with expansive roofs, which are more likely to collapse when tornadoes strike.



If you are caught in a vehicle:



Get out and into a sturdy shelter. If one is not available nearby, get to a low spot and cover your head from flying debris. Do not take cover under an overpass as this does not provide adequate shelter during a tornado and can cause increased wind speeds due to a tunneling effect. Do not waste time opening windows in an attempt to prevent damage to a building. The old belief that damage could result from rapid pressure changes during a tornado is NOT TRUE. It will not make any difference in a tornado if the window is open or not.

What about your pets? Are they ready to go when disaster strikes? Prepare your pet carrier for an emergency.



TORNADO SAFETY

PREPARE YOUR PETS
Get pets ready at the first sign of an approaching storm
Put your dog on a leash and your cat in a carrier
Move pets to the shelter well ahead of the storm

PET PREPAREDNESS KIT
Keep In Mind – Familiar items can help to reduce stress for your pets
Include pet food and medicine in your emergency kit
Put favorite toys, treats, and/or bedding items for your pet in your emergency kit

weather.gov/mob

Your safest course of action is to take shelter immediately when a tornado warning is issued for your area.



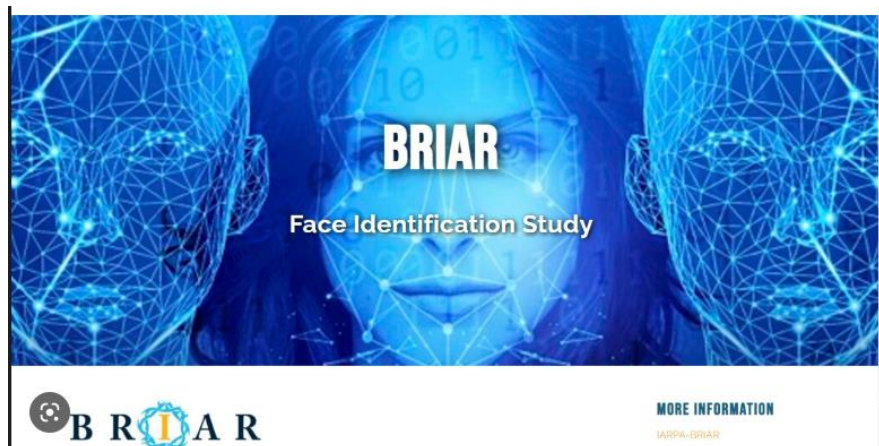
Never forget the basics.
They're the foundation of
what you're capable of
now.

Myron Sta. Ana

BRIAR Science Project at COD- by Trish Billings

January 28th, 2023 was the last day of this three week Briar Science Project.

For the better part of three weeks, **17** different volunteers spent over **488 hours** collectively escorting participants around the Homeland Security Bldg. and outside to the van. An Oak Ridge National Laboratory team



BRIAR
Face Identification Study

BRIAR

MORE INFORMATION
IADPA-BRIAR

was looking for paid volunteers to be part of a face and whole-body identification study that supports new developments in public safety missions, such as counterterrorism and border security. Our CERT members escorted these individuals from a holding area, then to area 1, then to area 2 and ending up escorting them to the van for the outside portion.

Three CERT members that went beyond the call of duty, and I would like to give them a special recognition here.

Lynda Pratscher who spent 12 out of 14 days for a total of 98.5 hours.

Nick Houghtaling who spent 11 out of 14 days for a total of 88.75 hours

James Weaver who spent 9 out of 14 days for a total of 78.75 hours.

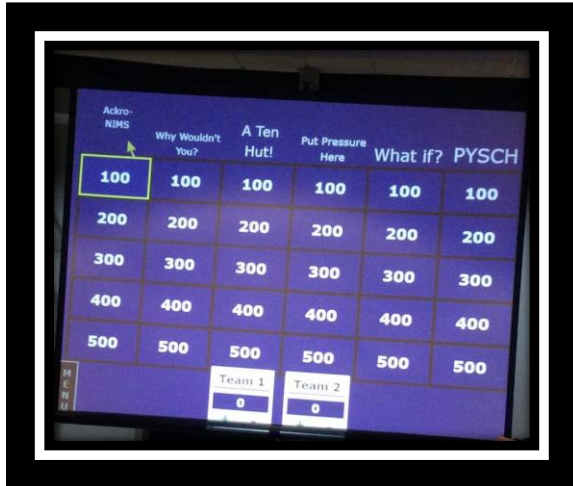
Congratulations on a job well done!

The Oak Ridge National Laboratory was so very appreciative of your willingness to assist them in this project and now they have a better understanding what CERT is all about. Thank you to all who participated in the paid portion and to those who spent the many hours escorting.

Chicago Steel Fun Day- by Trish Billings



On February 4th some of us gathered at the Fox Valley Ice Arena in Geneva for a Fun Night of Hockey, The Chicago Steel Hockey team is made up of people ages 15-20 years old. They did not disappoint, as it was an exciting finish to the win of 5-3! It was a great time to be ourselves; we did not have to perform traffic duty or check bags just hang out and have a good time.



CERT Jeopardy – By Trish Billings

On January 19th, 2023, about 12 CERT Members gathered together and we tested our Cert knowledge in a three games of CERT Jeopardy. CERT Jeopardy is the only game where we give you the answers and you have to come up with the questions. All had a good time. Special thanks to the Milton Township office who provided the space and the CERT Team who provided the Jimmy John mini sandwiches.

2023 DuPage County continuum of Care Point-in-Time Count

Mike Harvey
2023 Homeless Count IC

On 01/25/23, Milton Township CERT participated in the 2023 DuPage County Continuum of Care Point-in-Time Count of persons experiencing unsheltered homelessness. A homeless Point-in-Time count is an unduplicated count on a single night of the people in a community who are experiencing homelessness that includes both sheltered and unsheltered populations. The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) requires that communities receiving federal funds from the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Grants program conduct a count of all persons experiencing homelessness during the last 10 days in January.

Agencies participating in the Point-in-Time (PIT) count included 360 Youth Services, Bridge Communities, Catholic Charities, DuPage County Continuum of Care, DuPage County Community Services, DuPage County Sheriff's Department, DuPage County Homeless Management Information System (HMIS), DuPage Pads, Forest Preserve District of DuPage County, Hines VA, Midwest Shelter for Homeless Veterans, Peoples Resource Center, and US Department of Veteran Affairs.

During the 2023 count, 33 persons were surveyed or observed experiencing unsheltered homelessness in DuPage County, with 7 of the 33 being identified by Milton Township CERT volunteers. People were found sleeping in vehicles, in small makeshift encampments near grocery and retail stores, in sleeping bags in parking garages, and covered by blankets outside of train stations. 40 Milton Township CERT volunteers participated during the count, with IC located at the Milton Township Building in Wheaton, and 16 two-ppl teams in-the-field covering the Illinois Prairie Path trails, the DuPage Forest Preserves, and the communities of Elmhurst, Hinsdale and Willowbrook.

Milton Township CERT Newsletter
January 1st, 2023 – March 31st, 2023

Thank you to one and all for serving and supporting the annual Point in Time count! We would not have been successful without the help of everyone. Thanks as well to the IC staff of DICs (Dean Lapcewich, Mike Lynch, Trish Billings) and Scribes (Dottie Hemrick, Sharon Sifnotis, Marty Keller), who kept the evening coordinated and safe for those in-the-field, and as always, a special thanks to Sheriff Mendrick and his team, and the Forest Preserve District of DuPage County Police, in overwatch and support throughout the evening.





By: Joanie H.-IC



On March 20,2023, we had our annual Stop the Bleed training at Naperville Safety Town. Lt. Allen Katona, retired with the Naperville Fire Department, conducted the training for us. There were 15 CERT members in attendance. There was a slide show presentation about direct pressure, packing a wound and applying tourniquets. There was hands on trying in these areas, as well. Each member who attended was entered into a raffle to win a Stop the Bleed kit and William Wolsfeld was our lucky winner. I also had questions for the members after the presentation and members were given cohesive bandages as a prize. I appreciate everyone who showed up and participated.





By Dee Lehrman
National CERT Founding Member in 2019
Member of the Games and Activities Committee

I have attended the last two National CERT Conferences and will be attending again this year as a presenter and attendee. This year's conference will be in the San Francisco Bay Area in California. There is a great amount of workshops from some great professionals and CERT personnel.

Pre-Conference Training

Monday, June 26 through Wednesday, June 28, 2023

38 unique training opportunities will be offered during the Pre-Conference Training

Main Conference Agenda

Thursday, June 29 through Saturday, July 1, 2023

Over thirty presentations (during break-out sessions) will be offered during the main conference.

Earthquake Simulator

The California Governor's Office of Emergency Services will bring an Earthquake Simulator to the conference. This simulator will let participants experience a 7.0 earthquake.

Networking Activities

We are planning several networking activities throughout the week.

Use the link below to register for the conference.

<https://web.cvent.com/event/64dacdf1-598c-47f7-83db-cdace955633a/summary>

If you have not done so already, you can sign up for the 2023 National CERT Conference email list here: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/2023CERTConferenceEmailList>

Use the following link to book your room at the special rate:

<https://www.hyatt.com/en-US/group-booking/SFOBU/G-RISK>

We have contracted for 2600 room nights throughout the conference. If you get a message that the rooms are sold out, please email us at info@nationalcert.org and we will try to work with the hotel to make more rooms available.

Interested in learning more? Contact Dee Lehrman at dmllehrman@att.net.

2023 NATIONAL CERT CONFERENCE



DATES:

Pre-Conference: June 26th - June 28th
Conference: June 29th - July 1st



LOCATION:

Hyatt Regency SFO
San Francisco Bay Area



REGISTRATION:

\$675 Full Conference*
\$575 Without Pre-Conference*

* \$50 early bird discount if registered by April 28th. Prices are inclusive of all taxes and fees.

Are you a volunteer and are paying for your registration out of pocket? Email info@nationalcert.org to request a 50% discount.



WHY YOU SHOULD ATTEND:

- ♦ Training Opportunities
- ♦ Professional & Personal Development Opportunities
- ♦ Learn how to make your CERT program more inclusive
- ♦ National CERT Conferences only happen once a year!

CONFERENCE HIGHLIGHTS:

- ♦ First National CERT Skills Competition
- ♦ Meet & network with attendees from over 40 States & Territories
- ♦ EMI L deliveries of CERT Train-the-Trainer and Program Manager
- ♦ TEEX Training
- ♦ Cal OES CSTI Training
- ♦ FEMA supplemental CERT modules

PRESENTED IN PARTNERSHIP WITH:



California Office of Emergency Services



Fire Services Training Institute



Bay Area Urban Area Security Initiative



IL CERT Assoc.-Zooms 4th Tues of each month-

If you have not signed up for the IL CERT Association go to

Www.certillinois.com and sign up to be a member now.

Are you MOVING? Remember if you move outside of the DuPage County and / or the State of IL, we will need your CERT Backpack back. It will be recycled to someone else.

If you have moved within the DuPage County, do we have your new address on file? Phone number, CELL Carrier, and email too?

This is extremely important we have accurate information on file because if there is a CALL OUT, we need to be able to reach you!



- year Volunteer for 1 or 2 events this
- 100b Complete online course IS
- 700a Complete online course IS



FYI: We have started up a Milton Township Facebook Page! This has articles and pictures from events that we have done and events that are in the area. If you are a Milton Township CERT Member and are on Facebook, please join our group and see what's new!

MILTON TOWNSHIP CERT TEAM - FB Name

Please visit our website at www.milontownship.net - It's new!
(Click on the CERT TAB)

The CERT application is also on our website. Please tell your friends, co-workers, family members etc. who may be interested in enrolling in class.

Audit a class and refresh your knowledge in CERT—check out our website for future classes.





*shown on adult large tee



Official CERT Tee Shirt™ Milton Township Cert Team

A beautiful 100% 5.6oz Cotton
Shirt with pocket from



- ◆ This Forest Green Shirt comes in sizes **Small to XXX Large**
- ◆ It features an embroidered (not Screened) CERT LOGO on the front, and a retro reflective night time safety "CERT" name on the back.
- ◆ **Your Cost is \$20.00**
- ◆ Please email Trish at P.billings@miltontownship.net to order
- ◆ Please include your name/ size/ quantity/ phone/ & return e-mail address with your order

**** Available only to CERT graduates! ****



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"Are You Ready?"

We are on the web:
<http://www.miltontownship.net>

Visit the calendar for current and future classes/events

www.miltontownship.net

Visit the gallery of photos from past classes/events

www.miltontownship.net

