

# CERT of The Villages

## Community Emergency Response Team

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CERT Applicant,

The original concept of CERT was to train volunteers to respond during large scale disasters, natural or man-made, and provide first aid and support to the citizens of the affected communities. Based on the needs of the communities being served, modifications have been made over the years to the CERT concept. I can assure you that we are preparing ourselves to respond to a large scale disaster in the Villages and, if necessary, the surrounding communities. Most of our time in serving the community is done by our CERT teams providing the personnel, equipment, and medical supplies at major events in The Villages at the town squares, veterans' park and the polo field. We never work alone. We always work with 2 or more in a group.

There is one other disaster that we also train for. It is what we call the "individual disaster". For instance, finding a neighbor, friend or loved one in a situation that requires you to keep them alive for 5 minutes until the EMS/Rescue personnel arrive. If it is a cardiac, hemorrhaging, airway or shock related event, five minutes could feel like forever if you are working alone. In order to become proficient, and to maintain proficiency in life saving skills, a minimum of 12 hours a year of continuing education, training and volunteering at events are required. Once you graduate from CERT basic training, we provide the continuing education that you will need through regularly scheduled classes.

Annual Minimum Requirements:

- General CERT Meeting (1 of 4 per year)
- Division Team Meetings (2 of 6 per year)
- Monthly Training Class (1 of 12 per year)
- Annual CERT Training (ACT) (1 of 8 per year)
- CPR/AED/Heimlich Training (every other year)
- Volunteer for 2 major villages events (there are about 40 per year to choose from)

Because CERT is a volunteer organization dealing with emergency situations, you are required to keep your response skills properly maintained. If you feel attending continuing education classes is too much of a demand on your schedule, CERT may not be for you. So I am asking you to think about this and let me know what you decide.

Thank you,

David Bussone  
Commander  
CERT of The Villages  
david.bussone@tvcert.org  
(352) 674-2948

Villages Resident,

Thank you for your interest in The Villages Community Emergency Response Team. This application package consists of 6 pages, the last two being the actual application. I encourage you to read all the pages before you fill out the application.

E-mail is a critical component of the way we stay in contact with CERT members and we encourage you to keep us informed of any changes in your e-mail address. Please enter my e-mail address into your address book as this will prevent any e-mails we send you from being blocked. This would include your class schedule, CERT events and other pertinent information.

My E-Mail address is: David.Bussone@tvcert.org

Please fill out the application completely as it helps us to know who you are and what you might be best suited for in the CERT organization.

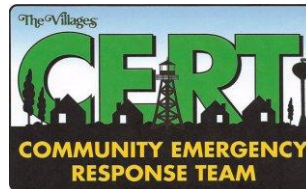
When you have completed the application, please sign and return it to the address located on the last page of the form.

Sincerely,

David Bussone  
Commander  
CERT of The Villages  
david.bussone@tvcert.org  
(352) 674-2948

**CERT of The Villages**  
**1231 Bonita Blvd.**  
**The Villages, FL 32162**

**Prepare**



**Train**

**Respond!**

## **The CERT Organization**

CERT of the Villages is a joint partnership with the Villages Public Safety Department. Training is conducted by the skilled and experienced members of the CERT organization with assistance from local and state agencies with funding provided by government grants and donations.

### **CERT Mission Statement**

The CERT organization trains citizens to provide initial assistance to their families, neighbors, and community during medical emergencies and disasters until professional emergency personnel arrive. Additionally, CERT members provide various forms of assistance to the community during the post disaster recovery efforts.

### **What Will I Learn As A CERT Member?**

- ✓ How to keep a friend, neighbor or loved one alive until professional emergency personnel arrive
- ✓ How to Provide a safe environment for yourself and others before disasters
- ✓ How to survive and cope during an overwhelming or catastrophic incident
- ✓ How to recognize potential hazards and reduce injury or damage to persons or property
- ✓ How to assume a leadership role with those who are not trained to deal with injuries or disasters
- ✓ How to identify and assist those who are traumatized from disasters or injuries.

### **Who can participate in CERT?**

Any Villages resident may become a volunteer member. Applications are available by contacting the following:

CERT of The Villages  
[www.certofthevillages.org](http://www.certofthevillages.org)  
or  
CERT Commander David Bussone  
E-Mail: [David.Bussone@tvcert.org](mailto:David.Bussone@tvcert.org)

## **Training**

The CERT Basic course consists of **thirty** hours of instruction, each of the **10** class sessions being three hours. Upon completion of the classroom and hands-on course of instruction you will attend a Disaster Drill after which you will graduate from training. At that time you will be assigned to a CERT team within your village area. Your education will continue through team meetings, general meetings, continuing education sessions and disaster drills all of which are held on a regular basis.

## **Course Content**

The course, which is funded by Homeland Security and developed by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), consists of the following:

**The CERT Organization & Disaster Preparedness**  
**Fire Safety, Hazmat**  
**Disaster Medical Operations Part 1**  
**Disaster Medical Operations Part 2**  
**Medical Practical**  
**Light Search and Rescue**  
**Disaster Psychology**  
**Terrorism and Haz-Mat and CERT**  
**Incident Command Systems**  
**Disaster Simulation**  
**CPR/AED (Added locally)**  
**CPR/AED Practical (Added locally)**

## **Class Scheduling**

Classes are scheduled based on the number of applicants available for classes. Once you have submitted an application you will be contacted with your class scheduling. If you have questions regarding classes please contact the CERT via the e-mail form on the "Contact Us" page.

## **Filling out the application**

There are two methods you may use to fill out this application:

#1: Fill out the form on your computer. You may Tab from field to field typing in the information required. Upon finishing the application you should print it out, sign it, and then mail only the last 2 pages to the address shown on the last page.

#2: Print out the form and fill it out on a typewriter or by hand. Upon finishing the application, sign it and then mail only the last 2 pages to the address shown on the last page.

OFFICE ONLY: Date Received: \_\_\_\_\_ Date Assigned: \_\_\_\_\_ Area: \_\_\_\_\_ Division: \_\_\_\_\_

## Community Emergency Response Team

*of The Villages*

### Contact Information

All applicants are subject to background investigation

Village of Residence:	The Village of:			
Your Name	First:	Initial:	Last:	
Street Address	Number:	Street:		Zip:
Phone	Home:	Cell:	Work:	
E-Mail Address				
Seasonal?	No <input type="checkbox"/>	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	When Away: _____	To: _____
Personal Data:    Mouse click on No or Yes				
Birth Date	Month	Day	Year	Male <input type="checkbox"/> Female <input type="checkbox"/>
Drivers License	State:			
Have you ever been arrested?	No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> If yes, please explain below			
Have you ever been convicted of a crime?	No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> If yes, please explain below			
Are you currently under a Doctor's care?	No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> If yes, please explain below			
Do you have physical restrictions?	No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> If yes, please explain below			
CERT assignments will be based on your ability to perform them				

## Special Skills or Qualifications

Summarize special skills, professional licenses, certifications and qualifications you have acquired from employment, previous volunteer work, or through other activities including languages spoken especially American Sign Language

Please attach copies of Professional Licenses or Certificates

## Person to Notify in Case of Emergency

Name	First:	Last:	City:	State:
Phone	Home:	Cell:	Work:	
E-Mail Address				

Print out this completed form, sign and date the form and mail to the address below

## Agreement and Signature

By submitting this application, I affirm that the facts set forth in it are true and complete. I understand that if I am accepted as a volunteer, any false statements, omissions, or other misrepresentations made by me on this application may result in my immediate dismissal.

Name (printed)	
Signature	
Date	

Mail or deliver the completed and signed application plus any special certifications that you have earned to:

**CERT of The Villages**  
**1231 Bonita Blvd.**  
**The Villages, FL 32162**