



**Town of Winchester
City of Winsted
Office of Civil Preparedness**

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The Town of Winchester Civil Preparedness Office has organized a CERT Team to assist the office in responding to emergencies and disasters that may affect the town.

The **Community Emergency Response Team (CERT)** Program educates people about disaster preparedness for hazards that may impact their area and trains them in basic disaster response skills, such as fire safety, light search and rescue, team organization, and disaster medical operations. Using the training learned in the classroom and during exercises, CERT members can assist others in their neighborhood or workplace following an event when professional responders are not immediately available to help. CERT members also are encouraged to support emergency response agencies by taking a more active role in emergency preparedness projects in their community.

Anyone who would be interested in volunteering to participate in the Winchester CERT Team must first attend an eight week CERT course taught by State of Connecticut Emergency Management Officials at Northwestern Connecticut Community College. The classes are held one evening per week and there is a practical skills examination at the end of the course. Further information on the schedule of CERT courses can be obtained by contacting Northwestern Connecticut Community College at 860-738-6300.

Anyone wishing to volunteer for the Winchester CERT Team may contact Civil Preparedness Director Steve Williams at 860-379-8771 or by email at swilliams@townofwinchester.org.