

# COMMUNITY EMERGENCY RESPONSE TEAM COURSE SYLLABUS

## CLASS 1 – INTRODUCTION, DISASTER AWARENESS

Registration / Introduction  
Disaster Threats  
Personal & Family Preparation  
Nonstructural Hazard Mitigation



## CLASS 2 – DISASTER FIRE SAFETY TECHNIQUES

Fire Chemistry  
Fire Extinguisher Use  
Utility Control  
Ventilation  
Creative Firefighting Techniques  
Hazardous Materials



## CLASS 3 – DISASTER MEDICAL OPERATIONS (SESSION 1)

Recognizing & Treating Life-Threatening  
Emergencies  
Triage  
Treatment Area Management



## CLASS 4 – DISASTER MEDICAL OPERATIONS (SESSION 2)

Head-to-Toe Evaluation  
Recognizing & Treating Non Life-Threatening  
Emergencies



## CLASS 5 – LIGHT SEARCH & RESCUE OPERATIONS

Evacuation  
Search Techniques  
Rescue Methods



## CLASS 6 – TEAM ORGANIZATION & MANAGEMENT

Developing a Response Team  
Size-Up  
Disaster Psychology



## **CLASS 7 – NIMS I-700 / Terrorism**

Incident Command System (I-100)  
Terrorism Lecture

## **CLASS 8 – COURSE REVIEW & DISASTER SIMULATION**

Disaster Simulation  
Critique  
Graduation



**Mount Laurel Township's C.E.R.T. Program** was developed because of the need for a well-trained civilian emergency work force. These teams will assist the Office of Emergency Management by responding during disaster situations where the number and scope of incidents have overwhelmed the conventional emergency services. The training program provides for community self-sufficiency through the development of multifunctional response teams who will act as an adjunct to the township's emergency services during major disasters. Through this unique program, people from community organizations, business and industry, and city employee groups will become members of C.E.R.T., or perform as individual leaders by directing untrained volunteers in the initial phase of an emergency.

The C.E.R.T. members receive approximately 27 hours (one day a week for 8 weeks) of initial training. The eight week course is followed by continuing education programs, consisting of full-day biannual refresher drills and quarterly 3 hour refreshers.

The ability of a business or community to effectively recover from the devastating effects of any disaster requires active participation, planning, and cooperation of all levels of the population. The fundamental responsibility for preparedness, however, lies with every individual.

Disaster preparedness and hazard mitigation can minimize the effects of a disaster and facilitate recovery. The benefits of this program are numerous. It has increased our overall level of disaster readiness, provided emergency skills that people may use in day-to-day emergencies, enhanced the bond between government and community, increased community spirit, and improved the quality of life for the people of our township.

