



Autauga/Prattville CERT Newsletter

Volume 1, Issue 1

June 2013

... doing the
greatest good for
the greatest
number.

- Ben Reddoch, CERT Chairman
- Allen Cotton, Vice Chairman
- Roy LaPorte, Secretary
- Rita Nichols, Treasurer
- Everett Flynn, Safety Coordinator
- Bonnie Temple, Member at Large
- Gary Barron, Medical Reserve Corps Coordinator

Inside this issue:

Welcome	1
The Science Behind CERT	1-2
MRC - The Inside Story	2
Prattville Citizens' Academy	2
Objective and Mission Statement	3
Important Emergency Numbers	3



Extra ~ Extra Read All About It! By Tracy Savage-Barron



Welcome to the first edition of the Autauga/Prattville CERT newsletter, keeping our members informed, educated and entertained.

The Autauga/Prattville CERT program began in August 2003 as a part of Citizen Corps, under the direction of the Autauga County EMA. Since its inception, CERT has grown to become an integral part of our community.

Through this newsletter, we would like to highlight our involvement of emergency and non-emergency activities, get to know our members and community and provide vital information

concerning training, education, and disaster support.

We would like to encourage and invite each of you to submit stories, pictures, upcoming events, past events, community information, birthdays, anniversaries or anything that you would like to have included in our newsletter.

You may submit all entries online via email to: apcertnewsletter@gmail.com

or in person to Ben Reddoch, Tracy Savage-Barron, Gary Barron or Allen Cotton.

Once received, it will be reviewed and edited for the next upcoming issue.

*Please note we have not yet established the frequency of the newsletter, therefore, please contact us as soon as possible for an event that is time sensitive. Thank you.

Please let us know what you think, we look forward to your feedback and welcome any suggestions you might have.



The Science Behind CERT By Ben Reddoch

How Much Does It Really Rain and... Why ~ www.CoCoRaSH.org Is Really Cool!

Okay, we have all turned on the news and heard that "yesterday we got an inch of rain". What does that really mean? Have you ever thought about that number? Well, you should.

Now that little number of one inch doesn't sound like much and as any good gardener will tell you, that is a pretty good rain. Especially if it is gentle and slow so it soaks in, right? But how much is that one inch? Well, grab your waders, kids. I am going to throw some amazing numbers at you.

Any of you that have mixed anything liquid in the kitchen or the shop knows that you have never mixed

anything by the inch so let's start with something we can wrap our heads around: gallons. During a rain event, one inch of rain on one acre of land equals 27,154 gallons of water! A 16' x 32' liner pool holds around 17,000 gallons!

Obviously, one of the things in CERT we have to watch is flooding. There is an amazing amount of water that falls during a rain shower.

(Continued on page 2)



Official CoCoRaHS Rain Gauge available online at <http://www.cocorahs.org>

Science (contd. from pg.1)

When we get into the amounts that have caused flooding, it is easy to understand why creeks rise and rivers flood. Autauga County's land area is 604 square miles. That is 386,560 acres. A one inch rain over the entire county would be 10,496,650,240 gallons! Yes, campers; that is 10.5 billion gallons!

Now, we all remember the rain that hit this area a few years ago, several inches of rain in just about 45 minutes. The flooding was crazy

but, imagine the amount of water that the storm drainage systems were trying to handle!

Okay, okay, I know you are asking what is www.CoCoRaHS.org? That is the Community Collaborative Rain Hail and Snow Network. It is a volunteer organization that people report precipitation amounts where they are. This data is then used to predict water runoff into local creeks and rivers by various government agencies. That helps warn people on what might

be coming their way and helps CERT watch for dangerous conditions. Check out their website and get one of their precipitation gauges and join up as a reporter!

Would you like to know the amount of rain the United States gets in a year? Just the 48 continental states gets enough rain during the year to cover the land-mass by 30 inches. That would be 1,430 cubic miles and would weigh 6.6 billion tons! Wow!

“Volunteers do not necessarily have the time; they just have the heart.”
~Elizabeth Andrew



Autauga/Prattville Medical Reserve Corps is coming! I just want to take a few minutes and give you an update on what has been happening on the MRC side of things.

In setting up MRC, we have had some hurdles to jump over, however we are getting there. Before we could really get things going, we had to verify several things with the powers that be, everything from liability issues to the application process.

We are currently working on the Standard Operating Procedures

Manual, types of training, application process and the organization chart. It is our goal to have everything ready by the middle of August, at that time individuals would be able to start signing up to be part of MRC.

Let me cover a few things with you that might answer some questions you may already have.

1. MRC is a separate organization, but is a working part of the CERT organization.
2. MRC will be governed by the CERT Council until such a time a MRC Council will need to be created.
3. CERT members will be able to take part in any and all training that is offered by MRC and vice versa.
4. You can sign up for MRC without having gone through the CERT class.

5. You do not have to have a medical background to join MRC.
6. You can be in both MRC and CERT, however both have different protocols for registering.

MRC will work along side the Autauga County EMA, Prattville Fire Dept., Prattville Police Dept., Autauga County Sheriff's Dept., Autauga/Prattville CERT and the Alabama Department of Health.

So, please join us in our excitement and help spread the word about A/P MRC!

Meanwhile you can check out the national Medical reserve Corp website at <https://www.medicalreservecorps.gov/HomePage> to get a better understanding. ** Please keep in mind that no two MRC units share the same mission and goals.

Prattville Citizens' Academy Begins By Tracy Savage-Barron

The Prattville Citizens' Police and Fire Academy started it's first class on June 6, 2013. It is a 10-week course dedicated to training, educating and helping the citizens of Prattville to understand the day-to-day activities of the men and women of our local Police and Fire departments.

The evening began with introductions to police and fire operations and course objectives set by Police Chief Mark Thompson and Fire

Chief Terry Brown.

During the 10-week course, each session will cover a variety of subjects from basic law enforcement to fire fighting techniques and their direct impact and roles in our community. Some of the topics that will be covered are crime prevention, fingerprinting, domestic violence, EMS skills, fire department specialty training, SWAT team, incident command systems, among others. This is a hands-on

course giving participants the opportunity to actively perform tasks such as fire arm safety, target shooting, putting out fires, wearing the uniforms, familiarizing themselves with emergency vehicles and practicing certain drills and tests.

The course will end on August 10th, with a graduation ceremony and cookout.

Among the 20 citizens enrolled, 9 were CERT members.



AUTAUGA/ PRATTVILLE CERT

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We're on the web!

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Or online at:
[http://www.citizen corps.gov/
cc/showCert.do?id=44767](http://www.citizen corps.gov/cc/showCert.do?id=44767)



OBJECTIVE:

The objective of CERT is to assist State, County, and City Emergency Services in any and all emergencies and to assist the general public in such emergencies, as trained.

MISSION STATEMENT:

The mission of CERT is to educate the citizens of Autauga County to be prepared and to safely care for themselves, families, friends and neighbors in the event of a disaster of any type, until additional emergency help can arrive and establish CERT as an emergency management resource. To continue to provide training, education and support to volunteers in basic disaster response, such as fire fighting and safety, light search and rescue, basic disaster medical skills and to participate in non-emergency projects that promote and improve safety in Autauga County.



Disaster Fact:
Damage paths of tornadoes can be in excess of one mile wide and 50 miles long.

** Important Emergency Numbers **

Alabama Bureau of Investigation:
353-1100

Alabama One-Call: Call before you dig:
1-800-292-8525 or 811

Alabama Dept. of Public Health:
361-3753

Alabama Power: 1-800-888-2726

Alagasco: 1-800-292-4008

Alabama State Trooper: 270-1122

Cell Phone: *47

Ambulance Services:

Care: 361-6299

Haynes of Elmore Co.: 514-7911

Air Evac Lifeteam: 285-2064

Animal Hospitals:

Animal Medical Clinic: 365-7900

Ark Animal Hospital: 285-4210

Cobbs Ford Pet: 285-3331



Plan... Prepare... Stay Informed

Autauga County EMA: 361-3758

Autauga County Rescue: 358-4219

Autauga County Sheriff: 361-2500

Autauga County Water: 365-2804

Central Ala. Electric: 365-6762

Elmore County Sheriff: 567-5227

National Weather Service:

Storm Reporting: 1-800-856-0758

Forecast: 205-664-3010

Poison Control: 1-800-222-1222

Prattville Baptist: 365-0651

Prattville City Hall: 365-9997

Prattville Fire Department: 361-3660

Prattville Mayor's Office: 361-3609

Prattville Police Department: 361-3632

Prattville Water & Sewage: 365-6783

Urgent Care: All-Med: 323-4000