

Whitfield County CERT Newsletter

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2022 Volunteer Appreciation Month

We've enjoyed getting to celebrate you all during this past month. We can't overstate enough how much each and everyone of you means to us as a team and individuals! We know with all of the things you're each involved in between families, church, work, and other organizations that you can't be there for everything, but please know we appreciate every second with you. Whether it's sharing a Facebook post, coming to training, or deploying on an event your time is appreciated.

During National Volunteer Appreciation week we hosted several contests for various goodies to add to your kit. Then Thursday, April 28th we had the opportunity to recognize Academy 20 graduates, training awards, years of service awards, and (most importantly) break bread together over a BBQ supper from Red Wolfe Grill. Thank you to everyone who was able to attend and let us celebrate you!





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2021 Volunteer of the Year: Ray Parrott

Our 2021 Volunteer of the Year is a person who has been dedicated to the program since the day he exited the academy. Whether it's helping program radios, making suggestions to improve the program, or training to be ready for whatever we may need him for next he's always there. To quote this person "CERT has made me more prepared and given me the confidence for almost any emergency. I have had to give CPR, applied tourniquets, treated accident victims (at times my own family) and been part of search and rescue. Not all with CERT but the training has let me know that I did all I could to help when it was needed." Due to Ray's willingness to help his fellow citizens, having the most training hours of 2021, and a history of community service outside of CERT we are proud to present him with our Volunteer of the Year award for 2021.





New Member Alert!

Please join us in congratulating CERT Member Greg Williams and his wife Jody on the birth of their baby girl! Willia-Rose Raelynn Williams (Willie) was born on April 13th. Everyone is doing well by all accounts. Congratulations Williams family!!

HAVE A STORY TO TELL? WERE YOU INVOLVED IN A CERT IN ACTION MOMENT? WERE NEW MEMBERS ADDED TO THE FAMILY? DID YOU GRADUATE FROM A PROGRAM OR EARN A DEGREE? EMAIL CBYRD@WHITFIELDCOUNTYGA.COM FOR THE NEXT NEWSLETTER!



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Featured FEMA Independent Study Course— IS-240.C Leadership and Influence

The goal of this course is to improve your leadership and influence skills. This course addresses: Leadership from within; How to facilitate change; How to build and rebuild trust; Using personal influence and political savvy; and Fostering an environment for leadership development.

Course Objectives:

- Explain what leadership means for emergency personnel.
- Explain why effective leadership begins with personal insight and development.
- Identify your leadership capabilities and areas for personal development.
- Describe a change management model and the process for planning, communicating, and implementing changes.
- Describe how to build and rebuild trust in an organization.
- Use personal influence and develop political savvy to network and influence people effectively.
- Develop strategies for creating a positive work environment that fosters leadership and a commitment to continuous improvement in others. List only the main objectives of the course, to be included in

If you choose to take this class please make sure you send a copy of your certificate to cbyrd@whitfieldcountyga.com.





Whitfield County Local Emergency Planning Committee

Calling all industry personnel— whether you are a business owner or a member of your employer's safety team, our LEPC could use your input. We meet every other month to discuss different happenings centered around hazardous materials in our community. Our mission is to enhance the protection of the community and the environment from hazardous materials incidents and all other hazards through planning, preparation and communication between citizens, business, industry and government. Email lepc@whitfieldcountyga.com with any questions or comments.



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Place of Worship and Small Business Safety Seminars

This year we've taken on two new community classes for worship and business leaders. These classes will teach some of the same concepts you've learned in your basic cert class with a few more specific classes like how to write a disaster plan. We certainly encourage you to attend if either of these categories apply to you, but we also ask for your help to spread the word. As of today we already have 33 out of 50 seats filled for the church class in May.



