



### Whitfield County CERT Newsletter

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## 2022 Volunteer Appreciation Month

April is one of our favorite months of the year because we get to celebrate YOU! Our volunteers are our greatest resource and we appreciate every moment we get to spend with you (whether in service or socializing). Throughout the year your dedication is noted whether it's training, responding, standing ready, or spreading the preparedness message to friends and family.

We will not have training April 7th. We'll instead have a picnic dinner at the EOC on April 28th at 6:30 PM. We'll be serving BBQ and all the fixings in addition to our awards ceremony. Your spouses are welcomed to join us as well. Please email cbyrd@whitfieldcountyga.com to RSVP.



"Doing the greatest good, for the greatest number of people."





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# Featured FEMA Independent Study Course– IS-288.A The Role of Voluntary Organizations in Emergency Management

The overall goal of this Independent Study course is to increase awareness of the roles and responsibilities of voluntary agencies in emergency management. Voluntary agencies have helped meet the needs of individuals and communities affected by disasters since the 1800's. Today, they serve a critical role in the emergency management field from helping communities prepare for and mitigate the effects of disasters to providing immediate response and long-term recovery services. Without the support, dedication, and expertise of voluntary agencies, the government would be unable to address all the needs of disaster-affected communities.

#### **Course Objectives:**

1. Describe the unique strengths that voluntary agencies bring to the emergency management community;

2. Identify important historical milestones in the development of voluntary agencies in the U.S.;

3. Describe briefly the history of each National Voluntary Organizations Active in Disaster (NVOAD) member agency;

4. Identify the roles and services that voluntary agencies provide throughout each phase of the emergency management cycle (i.e., mitigation, preparedness, response, and recovery);

5. Explain the importance of collaboration and coordination among voluntary agencies and between voluntary agencies and their emergency management partners;

6. Describe the entities (e.g., National Voluntary Organization Active in Disaster, the Donations Coordination Team) that foster government/voluntary agency coordination throughout the emergency management cycle.



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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.

HAVE A STORY TO TELL? WERE YOU INVOLVED IN A CERT IN ACTION MOMENT? WERE NEW MEM-BERS 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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## 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 31 out of 50 seats filled for the church class in May.



For more information contact Christina Byrd at 706-259-3730 or email cbyrd@whitfieldcountyga.com



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