



# CERT



## NASSAU COUNTY



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**CERT IS  
WHAT  
YOU  
MAKE IT**



**COUNTY,  
STATE,  
&  
FEDERAL  
ONE TEAM**

## *CERT Monthly Newsletter*

**FEBRUARY 2022**

Dear Members,

We hope each of you, your families and loved ones are all healthy and safe after this weekends Nor'easter Winter Storm Kenan brought white out conditions, heavy winds, power outages followed by intense cold to the area . It is a reminder that we need to be constantly prepared for any type of emergency. We wish to extend our Thanks to the RACES, AIRES, BTG, Skywarn and CERT members who monitored, listen and report during the storm.

Division 2 we will be having a remote ZOOM meeting on Thursday evening, February 17th at 7Pm ET. Please register in advance for this meeting at the link below. Once registered, you will get a confirmation email with the zoom link. Register in advance for this meeting:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZUtceGrrDMvHdcn7bOoZ0nu8kbtZXhOfgH3>

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting.

We are pleased to announce we are finally resuming the CERT Basic class. The classes will be held at the Office of Emergency Management and starts on Wednesday, March 09. We ask your help in recruiting new members.

Also, we are continuing to work on training and are finalizing the details for classes that will include "Stop the Bleed", CPR/AED/First Aid, Sheltering, Pet Sheltering and fire extinguisher training at the Nassau County FSA.

If you have any type of training you'd like to suggest, that reinforces our skills as CERT's, please contact us.

We would like to extend our best wish's to everyone and there families for a Happy, Healthy and Safe 2022.

Best regards

*Bob, Rick & Paul*

Nassau County Executive Bruce A. Blakeman, OEM Commissioner Denis Monette and Deputy Commissioner Richard Corbett would like to extend their gratitude to all CERT members that participated in the COVID Test Kit giveaways at Nassau Community College and Eisenhower Park locations. All of your hard work and dedication does not go unnoticed, thank you.



**In early January, two of the deadliest residential fires of the past 40 years in the US happened just days apart in Philadelphia and the Bronx. A total of 29 people died, including more than a dozen children.**

## **Home Fire Safety and Prevention**

### **Home Fire Safety and Prevention**

**By Jungi Hong, FEMA Corps Region 2**

The tragic fires in New York and Philadelphia have brought a renewed focus on fire safety. While fire deaths have declined over the decades, the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) estimates 3,000 yearly deaths from residential fires persist. One reality of the present age is the higher presence of more flammable material in electronics, making fires easier to spread in a home. As such, preparedness and prevention measures are necessary to prepare a home for a fire emergency. The fire department tries to arrive in six minutes, a crucial amount of time on your own to act in the event of a home fire.

Have and practice twice a year an evacuation plan with your household. Be aware of two ways to escape, whether a stairwell or alternate door to outside. However, if no safe exit exists, shelter in place may happen depending on the type of building, as residents did in the Bronx fire. Whether in a high-rise building or a single home, one's evacuation plan can make a difference in survival. Teach children what alarms do and ensure everyone knows how to call 9-1-1. In addition, an emergency communication plan is critical to reuniting the family after an emergency. As the Red Cross suggests, everyone should know who to contact to help rally members.

Test smoke alarms monthly and replace batteries once a year. In addition, know their expiration dates to replace them every ten years. If in public housing or an apartment, contact customer service with any issues with your alarms. For alarms to do their jobs, take them seriously. Survivors of the January fires reported frequent false alerts had normalized them to ignore alarms, which cannot happen with fire safety. By the time the danger is obvious, it may be too late. Be aware of the limitations of your building. For example, older apartment buildings may be held to different regulations in having sprinkler and other preventative systems. Having such knowledge will help you know what can and can not happen in a fire!

Apply preventative measures to household items. For example, keep potential fuel for fires at least three feet from stoves, fireplaces, or heaters. Put space heaters on even and nonflammable areas.

Unfortunately, many of the victims were youth and one of the fires began with a child playing with a lighter. Put fire-starting items out of children's reach and consider flameless candles to prevent accidents. Fire safety for children is important for their present safety and to ingrain habits to carry into adulthood. One way to teach children ages 4 through 8 is via the Red Cross's Pedro's Fire Safety Challenge, available through Alexa or Google Assistant-enabled devices.

Home fires can happen to anyone, but year-round preparation is the best way to protect your and your loved one's safety.

# TEN TIPS FOR FIRE SAFETY

1

Install smoke alarms on every level of your home, inside bedrooms and outside sleeping areas.



2

Test smoke alarms monthly. Replace batteries at least once a year.



3

Have a family fire escape plan and practice the plan twice a year.



4

If there's a fire in your home, get out, dial 911 and don't go back inside.



5

Keep matches and lighters out of children's reach.



6

Use flashlights during power outages, not candles.



7

Never leave a burning candle unattended.



8

Turn off space heaters when you leave the room and don't leave them unattended.



9

Only use smoking materials outside.



10

Keep flammable items away from anything that can get hot, such as space heaters.





Class began on Wednesday, March 09, 2022 at:

Office of Emergency Management

510 Grumman Road West

Bethpage, Ny 11714

All classes begin at 7:00 p.m.

**CERT Basic Class - Winter 2022**

Day / Date	Topic	Class	Location
Wednesday, March 09, 2022	Introduction / What is CERT	1	OEM
Wednesday, March 16, 2022	Fire Safety / Portable Radio Fundamentals	2	OEM
Wednesday, March 23, 2022	Disaster Medical Operations	3	OEM
Wednesday, March 30, 2022	Light Search & Rescue Operations	4	OEM
Wednesday, April 06, 2022	Sheltering Operations	5	OEM
Wednesday, April 13, 2022	Emergency Operations Center / Warehouse	6	OEM
Wednesday, April 20, 2022	Disaster Psychology / Terrorism / Graduation	7	OEM



Spread the Word



# Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Services (RACES)



## RACES / CERT Comms Group SITREP February 2022

RACES is now holding meetings on the first Thursday of the month.

The next meeting is Thursday, February 3

This will be a Zoom meeting.

Anyone wishing to attend can Join from any computer, tablet, or smartphone by entering:

<https://zoom.us/j/95928146234> in your browser.

Or, for audio only, you may dial by phone: 646-876-9923 and enter Meeting ID: 959 2814 6234 #

Any questions you can contact us at [nassaucountyny.races@gmail.com](mailto:nassaucountyny.races@gmail.com)

### CERT Communications Exercise After Action Report

**Meeting or Event Name:** CERT communications

**Meeting or Event Location:** Nassau County, N.Y.

**Meeting or Event Date:** Thursday, January 6, 2022

**Member Submitting Report:** Bob Long KC2PSN / WQME569

**Report Date:** January 7, 2022

**Activation Start/End Time:** 19:00 - 19:30

**# of Volunteers:** ( TBD ) **# Total Volunteer Hours:** ( TBD )

#### Activity Summary:

The purpose of this test was to determine the communications capabilities of CERT members during an actual emergency. CERT, ARES, RACES and BTG members were to attempt making contact with other members using FRS Radio Channels 4 or 5. Licensed Amateur Radio and GMRS operators were asked to assist in relaying any CERT members they heard via their respective frequencies set fourth in the communication plan for this test.



# Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Services (RACES)



## CERT Communications Exercise

### AFTER ACTION REPORT

#### **Major Strengths:**

Despite the repetitively short notice and technical issues this test helped to define what issues we need to focus on for interoperability between the communication modes

Those individuals participating in this test adapted to the unforeseen issues

Returning to actual in person trainings will help enhance members abilities to respond to emergencies

#### **Areas for Improvement:**

More advance planning, advertising and coordination may have yielded a better result

It was unclear if those participating understood the primary objective was to test FRS communications

Some GMRS operators where not clear or didn't understand how to transmit without tones

Technical issues with the BTG repeater didn't allow for the instructions or message to be disseminated over the repeater as originally planned

#### **Suggested Planning Activities:**

Review and familiarize the CERT members with the CERT Communication Plan at division meetings

Division leaders to Poll their CERT members to see who has their own FRS Radio

Create a map to include all members with radio capabilities (FRS, GMRS, Amateur Radio)

Schedule a follow-up emergency radio exercise

Better coordinate efforts with Amateur radio and GMRS groups as to the role they play in the CERT Communication Plan

#### **Suggested Operational Activities:**

Conduct an FRS communications training with live exercise at CERT division meetings to re-enforce radio fundamental skills

Continue ICS forms trainings in both virtual and face to face CERT meetings

# February 2022

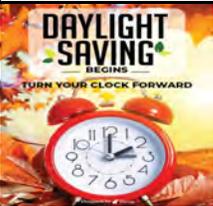
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1		3 RACES Meeting 7:30pm	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13		15	16	17	18	19
20		22	23	24	25	26
27	28					

## Important CERT Dates

### RACES Meeting

February 3  
Time: 7:30 pm

# March 2022

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2 Division 1 Meeting 7:30 pm	3 RACES Meeting 7:30pm	4	5
6	7	8	9 CERT Basic Class #1	10	11	12
	14	15	16 CERT Basic Class # 2		18	19
20	21	22	23 CERT Basic Class # 3	24	25	26
27	28	29	30 CERT Basic Class # 4	31		

## Important CERT Dates

### **CERT Division 1 Meeting**

March 2  
Time 7:30 pm

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### **RACES Meeting**

March 3  
Time: 7:30 pm

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### **CERT Basic Class**

March 9  
7:00 pm



## Nassau County CERT Coordinator

**Bob Chiz & Rick Delucia**

[oemcert@nassaucountyny.gov](mailto:oemcert@nassaucountyny.gov)

### Division 1

Division Supervisor

**Bill Pavone**

[nassaucertdiv1@yahoo.com](mailto:nassaucertdiv1@yahoo.com)

## CERT Deputy Director

**Paul Shapiro**

[pshapiro@nassaucountyny.gov](mailto:pshapiro@nassaucountyny.gov)

### Division 2

Division Supervisor

**Marvin Stein**

[certdiv2nassau@gmail.com](mailto:certdiv2nassau@gmail.com)

PLEASE HELP US RECRUIT NEW MEMBERS!!

**Class beginning on Wednesday, March 09, 2022 at:**

**Office of Emergency Management**

**510 Grumman Road West**

**Bethpage, Ny 11714**

All classes begin at 7:00 p.m.

**[OEMCERT@NASSAUCOUNTYNY.GOV](mailto:OEMCERT@NASSAUCOUNTYNY.GOV)**

*(Current CERT Members may attend any class as a refresher)*