CERT Priorities

- Help in emergencies before professional responders arrive
- Rescuer safety is number one priority
  - Always work with a buddy
  - Always wear safety equipment

CERT Goal:
Do the greatest good for the greatest number

CERT Sizeup

1. Gather Facts
2. Assess Damage
3. Consider Probabilities
4. Assess Your Situation
5. Establish Priorities
6. Make Decisions
7. Develop Plan of Action
8. Take Action
9. Evaluate Progress

REMEMBER: CERT SIZEUP IS A CONTINUAL PROCESS

CERT Fire Sizeup

- Helps responders decide:
  - Whether to attempt to suppress a fire
  - A plan of action
- Answers these questions:
  - Do my buddy and I have the right equipment?
  - Are there other hazards?
  - Is the building structurally damaged?
  - Can my buddy and I escape?
  - Can my buddy and I fight the fire safely?
  - Remember: The safety of individual CERT members is always the top priority

Deciding to Use a Fire Extinguisher

- If you don’t have a fire extinguisher handy, look for other resources
  - Swimming pool or spa water and buckets
  - Sand or dirt and shovels
  - A garden hose
  - Confine

Look for Creative Resources to Fight Fires

- In interior spaces, it is possible to confine a fire and restrict the spread of smoke and heat by closing doors, interior and exterior.

(based on 9/15/2015 version)
Fire Suppression Don’ts

- Don’t get too close
- Don’t try to fight a fire alone
- Don’t try to suppress large fires
- Don’t enter smoke-filled areas

Electrical Panel Shutoff Procedures

- Fuse box with shutoff
- Circuit box with shutoff

Natural Gas Meter With Shutoff

- Get a fire extinguisher for your home, if you don’t have one
- check the date on your fire extinguishers & replace if necessary
- Read Fire Extinguisher Tips from Contra Costa Fire Protection District (ConFire) - http://www.walnut-creek.org/home/showdocument?id=20116
- check you home for proper storage of hazardous materials
- check your home for dangerous ‘octopus’ extension cords and over loading of electrical outlets
- review this gas shutoff section of the CERT Participant Manual
- Watch electrical safety video ‘This Might Shock You: Downed Power Line’ by Puget Sound Energy - https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fLVzvMTgGDY

- Provider’s note for video: “If you come across a downed power line, stay as far away from it as you can and call 911. Do not touch or move anything near it. If you can’t move away from the downed line, stay in your car. If a vehicle comes in contact with a power line, stay in the car and call 911. Keep the doors closed and do not open windows. If a person comes in contact with a power line, stay clear and call 911 immediately. Do not touch the person and do not try to move them. Assume it is live. If you are driving and a downed power line falls on your car, keep the vehicle and get everyone out of the car. Do not touch the lines and assume it is live. If a person comes in contact with a power line, stay clear and call 911 immediately. Do not touch the person and do not try to move them. Assume it is live.”
- Provider’s note for video: “It’s important to be safe around electricity and to always wear your seat belt and never text while driving.”

Unit 2 HOMEWORK

- check you home for proper storage of hazardous materials
- check your home for dangerous ‘octopus’ extension cords and over loading of electrical outlets
- review this gas shutoff section of the CERT Participant Manual
- Watch electrical safety video ‘This Might Shock You: Downed Power Line’ by Puget Sound Energy - https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fLVzvMTgGDY

Provider’s note for video: “If you come across a downed power line, stay as far away from it as you can and call 911. Do not touch or move anything near it. If you can’t move away from the downed line, stay in your car. If a vehicle comes in contact with a power line, stay in the car and get everyone out of the car. Do not touch the lines and do not open windows. If a person comes in contact with a power line, stay clear and call 911 immediately. Do not touch the person and do not try to move them. Assume it is live. If a person comes in contact with a power line, stay clear and call 911 immediately. Do not touch the person and do not try to move them. Assume it is live.”
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