

Emergency Preparedness

C.E.R.T. (Community Emergency Response Team) educates individuals about disaster preparedness for hazards that may impact their area and trains them in basic disaster response skills, such as fire safety, light search and rescue, team organization, and disaster medical operations. When emergencies happen, CERT members can give critical support to first responders, provide immediate assistance to victims, and organize spontaneous volunteers at a disaster site. CERT members can also help with non-emergency projects that help improve the safety of the community.

SKYWARN is a program of the United States' National Weather Service (NWS). Its mission is to collect reports of localized severe weather. The **SKYWARN Storm Spotter** Program was created by the National Weather Service (NWS) to improve warning services. **SKYWARN®** is a volunteer program with nearly 290,000 trained severe weather spotters. These volunteers help keep their local communities safe by providing timely and accurate reports of severe weather to the National Weather Service. The NWS needs real-time reports of hail size, wind damage, flash flooding, heavy rain, tornadoes, and waterspouts to effectively warn the public of inclement weather.