

FOR IMMEDIATE  
RELEASE  
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Contact: **News Media Contact:**  
**Greg Nordyke**  
**Code Compliance Officer**  
**805.961.7500**  
[gnordyke@cityofgoleta.org](mailto:gnordyke@cityofgoleta.org)

The "Goleta Prepare Now" program is offering free Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) training to residents within the City of Goleta. The CERT training program prepares community members to take a more active role in emergency preparedness. CERT participants are trained to serve as part of neighborhood or workplace response teams in the event of a major disaster, when emergency services may not be available and when residents may have to rely on each other for life-saving and life-sustaining needs.

Participants in the CERT program will learn about disaster preparedness and response, basic fire safety, disaster psychology, first aid, search and rescue techniques and terrorism preparedness.

CERT courses consist of a series of eight (8) classes. Each course will conclude with a mock-disaster drill, which will test the participants' knowledge and skills learned in the training. The CERT course is taught by fire fighters, first responders and volunteers from the south coast area.

The classes are free of charge and begin on Thursday, July 8, 2010, and conclude on Thursday, August 19, 2010. All classes will be held from 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. at the Goleta Valley Community Center. The mock-disaster drill will be held on Saturday, August 28, 2010, from 8 a.m. to noon. Space is limited, so participants are encourage to enroll early. Registration forms can be obtained by visiting the "Goleta Prepare Now" website at <http://www.goletapreparenow.org/community-emergency-response-team>, or by emailing [goletapreparenow@cityofgoleta.org](mailto:goletapreparenow@cityofgoleta.org). Forms are also available at Goleta City Hall, 130 Cremona Drive, Suite B, Goleta, CA 93117.

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The Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) program helps train people to be better prepared to respond to emergency situations in their communities. 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.

**Date & Time**

July 8 – August 19, 2010  
Thursday Evenings  
6:00PM – 9:00PM

and August 28, 2010  
Simulation and Graduation  
8:00AM-12:00PM

**Location**

Goleta Valley Community Center  
5679 Hollister Avenue  
Goleta, CA 93117-3400

**Additional Info:**

[www.goletapreparenow.org](http://www.goletapreparenow.org)  
[goletapreparenow@cityofgoleta.org](mailto:goletapreparenow@cityofgoleta.org)  
Ph. 805.961.7500



**Disaster Preparedness**

Instructs team members how to prepare themselves and their neighborhoods for the various hazards that may occur.

**Team Organization and Disaster Psychology**

Addresses organization and management principles necessary for a CERT to operate successfully. Covers critical incident stress for victims as well as workers.

**Medical Operations**

Team members will learn how to conduct triage, establish medical treatment areas, and provide basic first aid for victims.

**Damage Assessment**

Team members will learn how to rapidly assess damage employing a standardized format used throughout the city.

**Disaster Simulation**

A small-scale disaster simulation is also a part of the basic program.

**Fire Suppression**

Team members will learn how to use extinguishers and other equipment to suppress small fires.

**Light Search and Rescue**

Team members will learn light search and rescue planning, techniques, and rescuer safety.