

# CERT

## COMMUNITY EMERGENCY RESPONSE TEAM

### *BRECKSVILLE – BROADVIEW HEIGHTS*

### *APRIL 2013 MEETINGS*

#### **I. General Meeting Minutes**

Date: 4/17/2013

Time: 7:05pm-8:30pm

Location: Brecksville Human Services Gathering Room and Human Services Therapy Pool

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#### **A. General Announcements**

1. Evacuation Drill at Progressive Field—the drill will be held Tuesday April 23<sup>rd</sup>.
2. Drug Round-Up—to be held on Saturday April 27<sup>th</sup>. Two shifts of volunteers are needed. Contact Melissa if you can help. Another Round-Up will be held in September.
3. Web Site—The Web Site is up-to date. Many thanks to Melissa for doing a great job with this project.
4. County Wide Drill Awards Ceremony—is scheduled for Monday May 13<sup>th</sup>.
5. Northeast Ohio Medical Response Team Lecture—this all day lecture will be held on June 14<sup>th</sup>. See Leslie if you are interested in attending.
6. CERT Association Meeting Report—Bill Zaker volunteered to attend the county wide CERT Association meeting and gave the following report on the topics discussed:
  - The re-organization of this group is an effort by the county to create a more simplified structure.
  - Credentialing is the most important issue right now which involved a lot of discussion.

- The need to identify best practices and standardize training across the county was discussed
- Risk management and litigation was discussed

Anyone interested in attending this meeting is welcome, see Bill for details.

## **B. Water Rescue Awareness—Presented by Mike Packard**

Every year 100 people die as a result of a flash flood. Each year 3 to 4 public service personnel also die by drowning in flash flood situations. Public education is very important for both young children and adults to help increase awareness of the dangers of water rescue and swift water situations. Bowling Green University has an on-line educational service available to everyone at BGSU.edu.

Before a flash flood occurs it is best to know the areas of concern or hazards in your community. A life jacket or personal flotation device (PFD) is always the first response to a water rescue; if your feet are wet you should be wearing a PFD. Always use the Incident Command System. Recognize additional hazards by evaluating the area. Look for such things as utilities, the presence of hazardous materials and confined spaces. Always treat downed power lines as if they are charged (live) and that the water may be contaminated with a hazardous material. Never tie a rope to someone in swift water. Never go into swift water to save someone, instead throw an object that floats or reach with something.

The dangers of floods and urban flood issues were discussed. Pictures and videos of situations were shared that show the extreme force (Delta P) of moving water.

The group then went to the therapy pool area to practice using a throw bag which is the safest way to save someone in water.

The Explorers were thanked for volunteering to be pool “victims”.

**D. Next General Meeting—Thursday September 19th, 7pm at the Brecksville Community Center, Human Services Room, topic to be announced.**

*Respectfully Submitted, Sue Schindler*

Cc: E.Egut, J. Hajek, C. Jatsek, T. Dodd, J. Winar