



**FREE Disaster Preparedness Training
20-Hour Basic Community Emergency Response Team Class**

The Village of Alsip will be hosting a Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) 20-Hour Basic Course starting on Thursday, September 3, 2026. The Course is **FREE** and will be held on seven Thursday evenings from 6:30 pm to 8:30 pm at the Alsip Village Hall. The class covering fire safety will be held on one Thursday evening at Reliable Fire & Security in Alsip. The Final Exercise and Graduation will be held on Saturday, October 24, 2026, at Cook County EOC in Oak Forest from approximately 8:00 am to 1:00 pm.

The CERT Program educates people about disaster preparedness for hazards that may impact their area and trains them in basic disaster response skills, such as fire safety and extinguishment, light search and rescue, team organization, and disaster medical operations including first aid, bandaging, splinting and bleeding control. Using the training learned in the classroom and during exercises, CERT members can assist others in their neighborhood or workplace following an event when professional responders are not immediately available to help. CERT members also are encouraged to support the community by providing assistance with non-emergency events and emergency preparedness related projects. No experience is needed, we will provide you with the training needed to become a volunteer Alsip CERT member. The CERT program is applicable to all ages, however, the minimum age to participate for this particular course is 18 years of age.

Those interested in registering for the CERT Course should contact Charles Geraci, Department of Emergency Preparedness Director, Village of Alsip, (708) 254-2900 or cgeraci@villageofalsip.org. Class size is limited to 30 and registration closes on August 17, 2026.



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