

# Okaloosa County News Release

1/26/2011

Kathy Newby, 850.651.7515, [knewby@co.okaloosa.fl.us](mailto:knewby@co.okaloosa.fl.us)

## Okaloosa County CERT Training Feb. 5-6

Okaloosa County Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) will hold training sessions on February 5 and 6, 2011 from 9:00 a.m. until 6:00 p.m. each day. To register, email Okaloosa County Emergency Management Coordinator Ken Wolfe, [kwolfe@co.okaloosa.fl.us](mailto:kwolfe@co.okaloosa.fl.us), or call 850-651-7150. **Registrants must attend both days** in order to complete training. Classes will be held at the new 911 Emergency Operations Center on the main campus of Northwest Florida State College in Niceville and **pre-registration is required**.

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, light search and rescue, team organization and disaster medical operations. Using the training learned in the classroom and during exercises, CERT members can assist others in their neighborhood following an event when professional responders are not immediately available to help. The CERT program is an official emergency preparedness program administered under the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA).

Okaloosa County CERT has a new web site at [www.okaloosa-cert-team.org](http://www.okaloosa-cert-team.org). Okaloosa County CERT teams are designed to be coordinated at the neighborhood level by a designated CERT leader. The team leader is selected by the members of the team and is the official liaison between the neighborhood CERT and the Okaloosa County Department of Public Safety's Emergency Management Division.

###