

## CERT TRAINING BEGINS MARCH 3

The Town & Country and Creve Coeur Police Departments, along with the Creve Coeur Fire Protection and West County EMS and Fire Districts have partnered together to offer citizens specialized training, known as CERT, to assist the community in the event of a large-scale disaster. Our program is part of the Meramec Valley Citizen Corps Council, which includes CERT programs from several local municipalities and fire districts.

Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) training was designed by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and is designed to train citizen volunteers to assist their communities after disasters, such as an earthquake. Topics covered during the training include: disaster preparedness, fire suppression, medical operations, light search and rescue, disaster psychology, and terrorism. Required training manuals, as well as some supplies, will be provided for participants.

**CERT training is offered to all city residents and is FREE of charge. The training is conducted on **Wednesday** evenings from **6:30 – 9:30 PM** for **5** consecutive weeks. The next class is scheduled to begin on **March 3rd**.**

Additionally, businesses located within the city limits interested in providing CERT training for a group of employees, can host a class during normal business hours. Edward Jones, Monsanto and Maryville University employees have completed the training and are better prepared to assist and respond should a disaster occur while they are at work.

It is important to have trained citizen volunteers available to assist our police and fire departments and the community in the aftermath of a disaster. **If you would like to enroll and/or receive additional information regarding CERT, please contact Officer Chris Hunt at 314-587-2868 or by email at [hunte@town-and-country.org](mailto:hunte@town-and-country.org).**

Additional CERT information is also available at the FEMA website, [www.ready.gov](http://www.ready.gov).

