

Team Disaster-Response Quick Start

1. When You Arrive at the Assembly Area

- First person to arrive assumes role of Incident Commander.
- Conduct a Size-Up: Is the area safe? What is around you? Are conditions safe to operate?
- Sign in your team members as they arrive.
- Document any observations team members have made on their way to the assembly area concerning road access, hazards, casualties, etc.
- Incident Commander gets the Incident Commander Hub Radio (Wouxun).
- Conduct a quick team radio check to ensure radios are set to proper channel and privacy code.
- Using the special Incident Commander radio, contact your team's assigned *CERT Radio Communications Hub* that your team is operational.
- Assign team members to roles depending on the number of members and volunteers you have available.
- Sign in any volunteers who offer to help.

2. Organizing Search & Rescue Operations

- Rescuer safety is your first priority.
- Form 2-person or larger S&R teams. Volunteers may assist under CERT supervision.
- Equip teams with first aid supplies, triage tags and S&R Forms.
- First pass is to rapidly assess the situation, conduct triage and treat the *Three Killers* (Airway, Bleeding, Shock), and then return to treat and/or transport the other victims.
- Start searching where you are and move out in a logical pattern. Document as you go.
- Size up the situation continually.
- Always work with a buddy, never alone.
- Conduct a 360-degree exterior visual and voice search of all structures for injured or trapped occupants. Never assume structures are vacant.
- Only enter and search a structure if you suspect there are trapped or injured persons inside. Radio your **Incident Commander** before entering and leaving, or have someone outside monitor your progress.
- Rescue lightly trapped victims first.
- Use "X" search marking procedures before and after the structure search.

Search Markings

- Upon entering search area:
 - Make a slash
 - Enter info
- Upon leaving search area:
 - Complete 'X'
 - Enter info



~~Date
Time In
Time Out~~

~~CERT
I.D.~~

~~Areas
Searched~~

~~Victims~~

3. Treating the Injured

- The objective is to do the most good for the most people.
- First conduct triage and treat the *Three Killers* (Airway, Bleeding, Shock), and then return to treat and/or transport the other victims.
- Treat victims where you find them if it is safe to do so.
- Document as you go.
- Transport may not be necessary if the injured can be monitored by family or neighbors.
- Reassess victims frequently, especially after transport. What starts out as a category *yellow* or *green* may become *red* due to blood loss, shock, or other causes.
- Radio your *CERT Radio Communications Hub* using the Incident Commander's Wouxun radio if you need advice on treating injuries you encounter.