

“The Reel Thing”

Virginia Citizen Corps

5 Citizen Corps Programs



2003 - USA Freedom Corps Citizen Corps Programs were born

The devastation of 9/11/2001 inspired the Bush administration to establish Citizen Corps, asking Americans to become more prepared for disasters and get involved in their communities through its 5 programs.



#1 Neighborhood Watch - Born in 1972

National Sheriffs' Association received a grant from the Law Enforcement Assistance Administration. Now operates in Virginia through the Virginia Crime Prevention Association and PD



Virginia Neighborhood Watch



187 primary law enforcement agencies in the Commonwealth

119 agencies sponsor Neighborhood Watch programs

Combined total of **4,794** programs

Estimated **316,404** households

803,666 volunteers

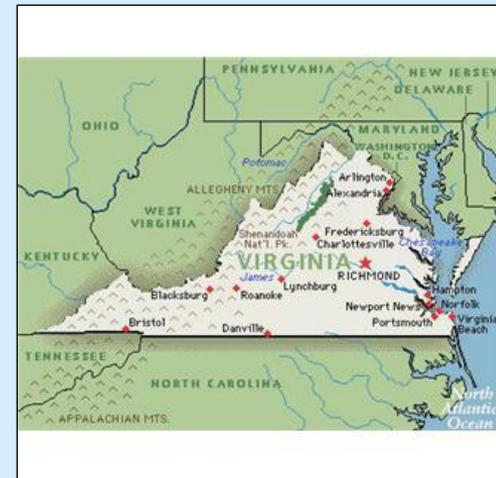
12% of Virginia's population



Highest areas of concentration in Virginia

**700 Crime Prevention Specialists work through
PD in:**

Fairfax County
Chesterfield
Newport News
VA Beach
Henrico
Prince William
Albemarle Co.
Hampton
Norfolk
Alexandria



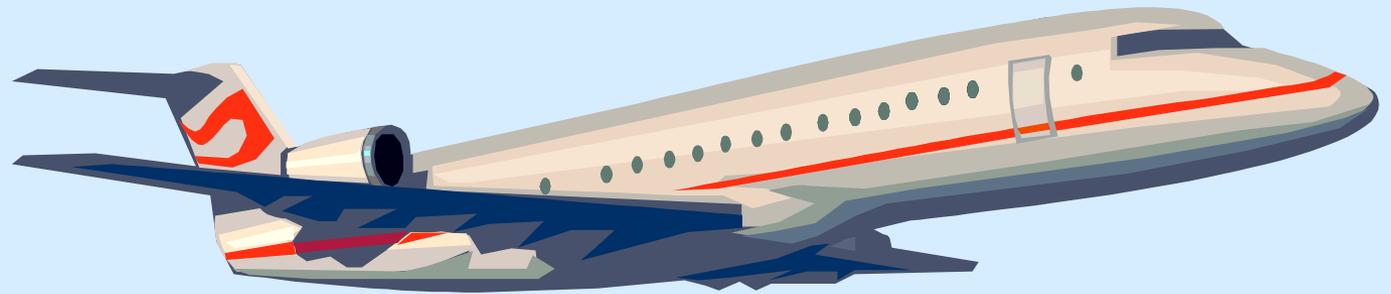


#2 The Community Emergency Response Team

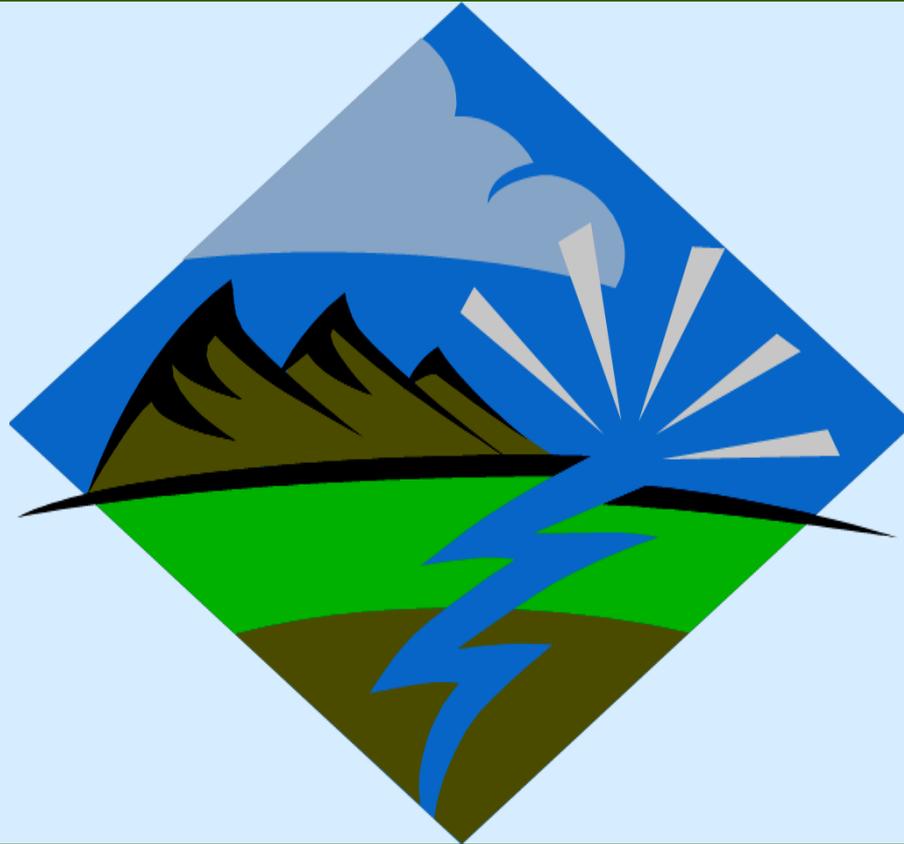
From its roots
to a national
protocol...



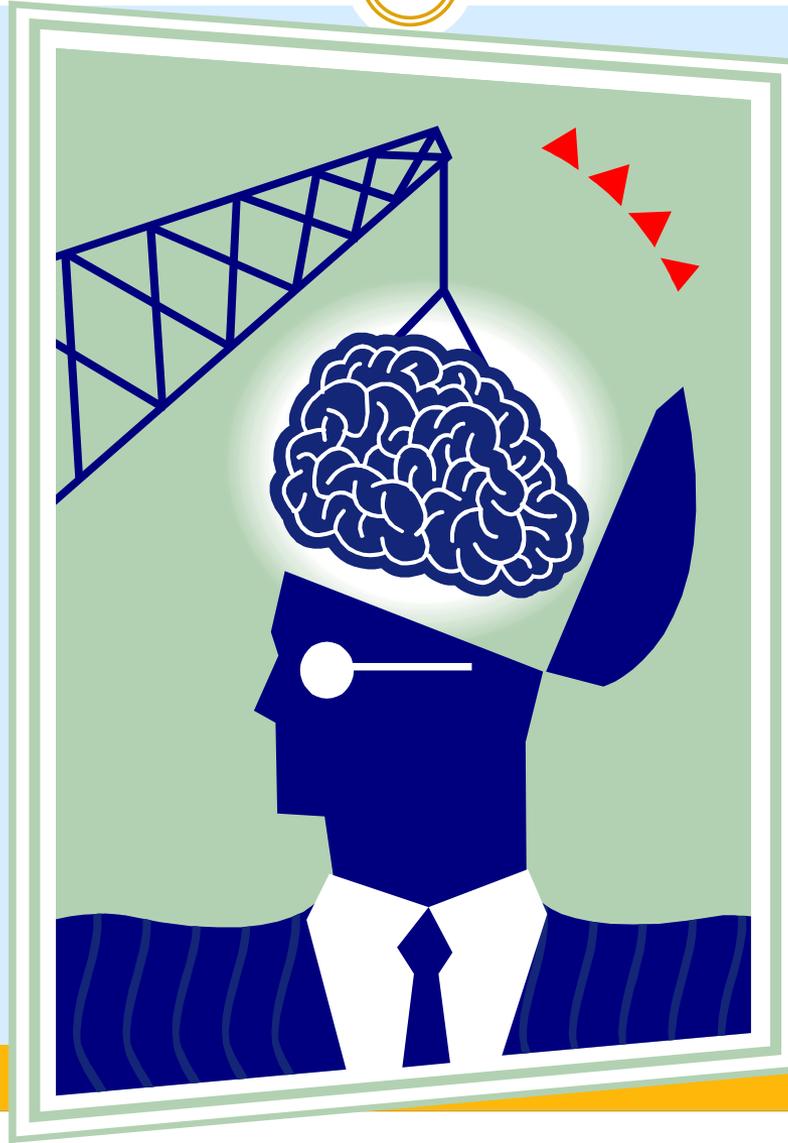
February 1985- Los Angeles Fire Department sent a team to Japan...



To study its extensive earthquake preparedness plans



The team experienced a very interesting  concept...



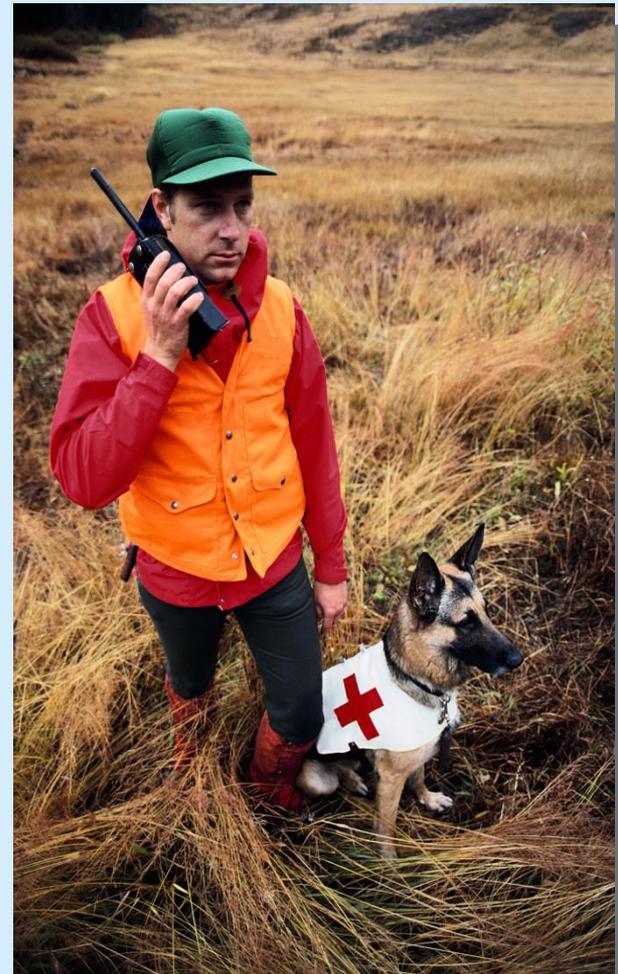
Entire neighborhoods were trained in “one aspect” of alleviating the potential devastation that would follow a major earthquake.



Light Search and Rescue

Taught by fire professionals on the proper techniques to search for survivors and victims and how to care for them

Doing the most good until responders arrive



Triage and First Aid

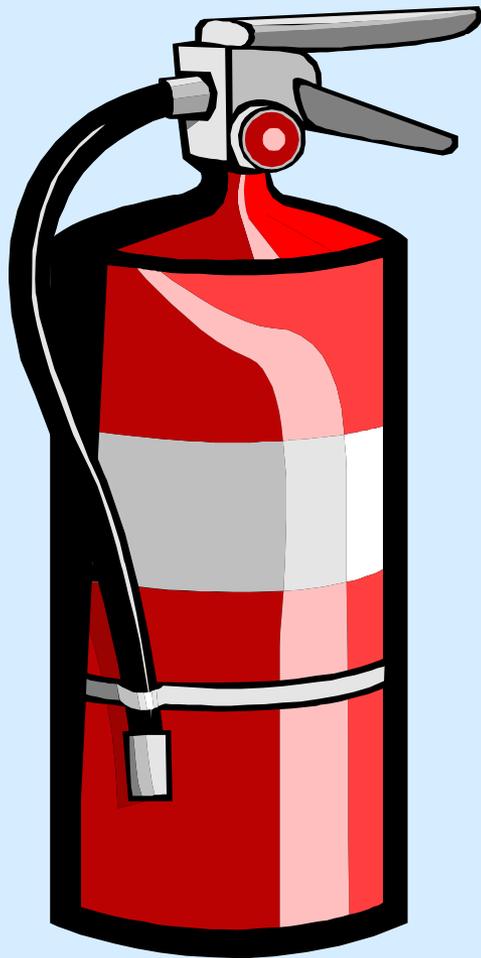


Taught by qualified professionals

Students receive basic first aid and triage to assist until responders arrive



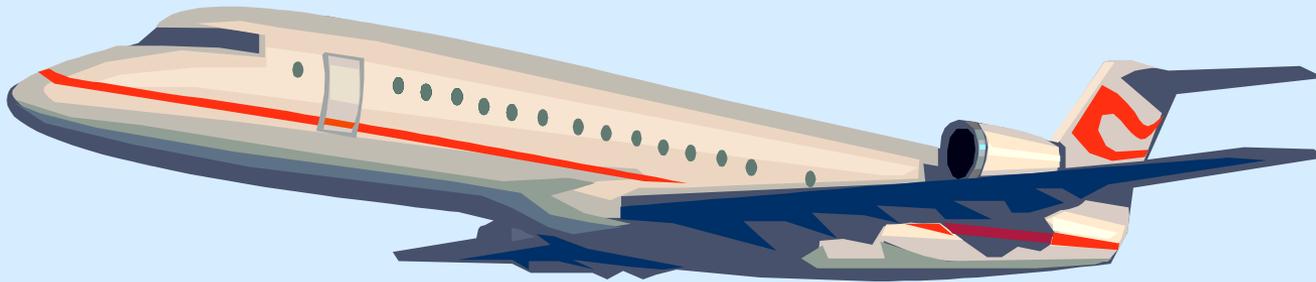
Basic Fire Suppression



Fire professionals teach the “basics”. Putting out a fire no larger than a trash can

Safety “first” for volunteers

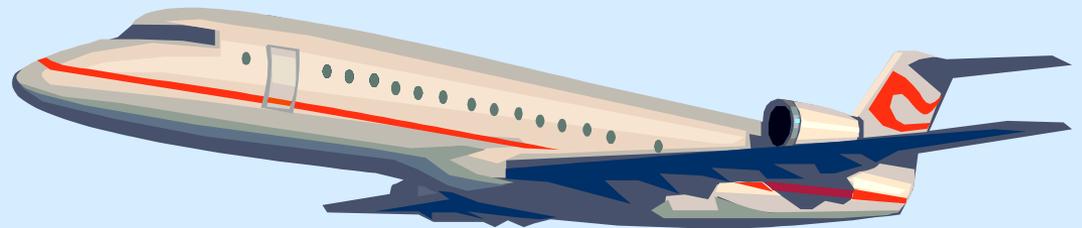
**The team returned to Los Angeles with
an interesting idea**



Fast Forward September 1985



An investigative team was sent to Mexico City where they studied the aftermath of an earthquake 8.1 on the Richter scale



Witnessed incredible devastation



30,000 were injured, 10,000 died

- Hundreds of untrained and unaffiliated volunteers helped in the 15 day rescue effort
- 800 successful rescue missions

100 volunteers died



1986, LA Fire developed the Community Emergency Rescue Team program



Tested it on 30 Neighborhood Watch volunteers

- Light Search and Rescue
- First Aid/Triage
- Basic Fire Suppression



1987 - Whittier Narrows earthquake in San Gabriel, CA. 5.9 on the Richter scale



Expedited the need to train civilians to develop, train and maintain a network of Community Emergency Response Teams to meet local needs across the USA

1993- FEMA made the concept and program available nationwide and expanded CERT training materials to make them applicable to **include “all hazards”**

Why CERT in VA, why CERT anywhere?



Because only 1% of the US population are responders!



Virginia

CERT program actually started in **1999** through Emergency Management in Hampton

Program affiliated with the Virginia Department of Emergency Management in **2004**

Currently, approximately **50** teams statewide;
5800 Virginians trained

CERT primary functions and goals



To ensure the safety of volunteers in the aftermath of a disaster:

- ✓ Provide clear leadership
- ✓ Improve the effectiveness of response efforts
- ✓ Do the most good for the most people in the least amount of time

Core Curriculum



- ✓ Fire Safety
- ✓ Disaster Medical Operations- First Aid and Triage
- ✓ Light Search and Rescue
- ✓ Disaster Psychology
- ✓ Terrorism and CERT
- ✓ Disaster Preparedness
- ✓ Organization
- ✓ Disaster Simulation

CERTs do not self deploy!



CERT volunteers are more prepared at home and work because of their training. They can also assist in helping their communities in some of the following ways:

Initial site inspections

Debris/Snow removal

Food and water distribution

Evacuation

Special needs assistance

Human shelter management

Animal shelter management

Assisting at the EOC

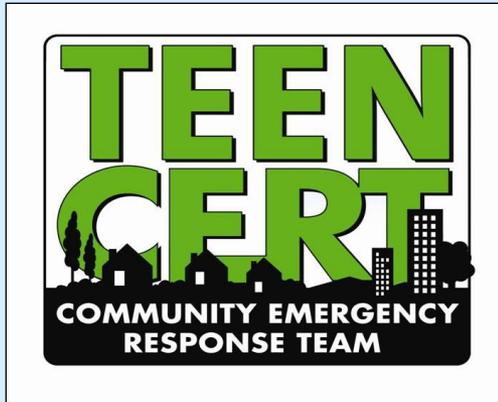
Outreach events/Public education

Disseminating information

Graduations/Parades/Sporting events/Community events/fairs

(presence to car parking)

Specialty CERT training



Same powerful training

Teens teach their caregivers!

- ✓ Girl and Boy Scouts
- ✓ Youth groups
- ✓ Faith based youth groups
- ✓ Boys' and Girls' Clubs
- ✓ Can assist their communities in non-emergencies



- ✓ Students, staff and faculty
- ✓ Resident assistants boost their skills
- ✓ Disasters “do” threaten our campuses
- ✓ CERTs can also join their community CERT
- ✓ Tremendous asset to campus security

Virginia



Teen CERT: Norfolk, Sussex, Pittsylvania,
Henrico

Campus CERT:

Danville Community College

Virginia Intermont College

Virginia Commonwealth University

Radford University

Virginia Tech

ECPI Virginia Beach

University of Virginia

Virginia



Business CERT:

- 3 Wachovia Banks-Roanoke
- TowneBank headquarters-Suffolk
- Office Max-Bristol
- Rubicon, Inc.-Richmond
- Virginia Museum/Richmond Museums

Hospital CERT: Danville Regional Medical Center

CERT at Work: State agencies-VDOT, DOC

VDEM CERT Training 2010

7 CERT Train the Trainer classes. **82** trained
4 CERT Teen/Campus CERT one day Train
the Trainer Power Workshops. **45** trained
State Safe CERT training for state employees
held in downtown Richmond and Roanoke.
38 trained



CERT/Neighborhood Watch Partnership

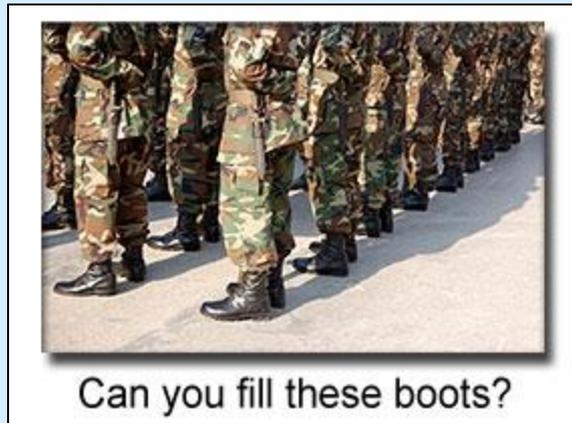


Teaching CERT to Neighborhood Watch Crime Prevention Specialists provides real time experience to encourage CERT training to their neighborhood teams

Expanding CERT training



Virginia Defense Force



Neighborhood Watch and CERT were grandfathered into Citizen Corps with 3 new volunteer programs:



Medical Reserve Corps



Volunteers in Police Service



FIRE CORPS



Medical Reserve Corp



Mission: To improve the health and safety of communities across the country by organizing and utilizing public health, medical and community volunteers. Volunteers prepare and respond to disasters and promote healthy living throughout the year and supplement existing emergency and public health resources.

31 units covering the entire commonwealth – 11,000 registered volunteers

Provided over **\$825,000** in volunteer support for HINI and also supports:

- infant mortality prevention
- heart and kidney health screenings
- sunscreen prevention
- rabies vaccination
- disaster preparedness clinics
- school immunization
- seasonal flu clinics

Liability for CERT and MRC



House Bill 2520 (2005)

- CERT and MRC volunteers who are deployed to an event at the direction of state or local governmental entities are entitled liability protections.....
 - ✦ 2.2-3601,3602, and 3605
 - ✦ 32.1-48.016, and 44-146.23

Workmans' Compensation



Virginia Workmans' Compensation Act

- Recognizes CERT and MRC may be deemed to be employees, under certain circumstances and thus, eligible for workers' compensation benefits as an employee of the commonwealth
 - 65.2-101

And finally...



- The 2 other Citizen Corps programs:





Volunteers in Police Service

Established by local Police Departments to serve in unpaid, non-uniformed positions to augment the work of law enforcement

48 programs - **1777** volunteers providing **246,221** in volunteer hours since 2002. **\$5,281,440.45** in value to Virginia law enforcement based on Virginia's hourly value of a volunteer at **\$21.45** an hour

Administrative duties:

data entry

filing

photocopying reports

translators

computer activities

inventory control

radio skills

courtroom

testimony

Finger printing

driver

awareness

traffic control

record keeping

photography





Fire Corps - 44 active programs

A partnership between the International Association of Fire Chiefs' Volunteer and Combination Officers Section, the International Association of Fire Fighters, and the National Volunteer Fire Council.

Fire Corps volunteers promote non-operational community support to supplement resource restricted fire departments at all levels.

- ✓ Program marketing and public relations assistance
- ✓ Carbon monoxide & smoke alarm installations
- ✓ Home and child safety seat checks
- ✓ Administrative tasks and more...



Virginia Citizen Corps Councils or LEPCs run the show



The backbone of Citizen Corps programs, they meet to discuss the needs of their communities that are best served by the activities and programs of Citizen Corps affiliates

2,445 Citizen Corps Councils serving **229,207,629** people or **80%** of the population of the U.S.
Approximately 50 Citizen Corps Councils or LEPCs in Virginia

Representatives from:

- Neighborhood Watch, Fire Corps, VIPS, MRC and CERT
- Governmental agencies
- Law enforcement
- Health
- EMS
- Fire
- Special Needs
- Community Partners
- Chamber of Commerce
- Print and broadcast media
- VOAD
- Community volunteers

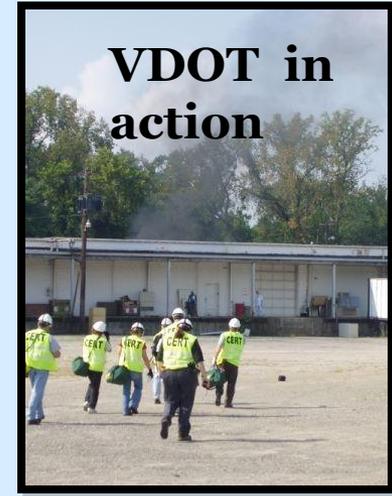


Pictures are worth a thousand words...



Page County, Office Max, VDOT, Commonwealth Girl Scouts and Pittsylvania County Teen CERTs in Action

Page County CERTs learn how to treat a person in shock



Girl Scouts learn about making choices from an FBI agent



Virginia Citizen Corps Partnerships in action



QUESTIONS?

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Management**

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