

# NEWS from BONITA SPRINGS FIRE-RESCUE



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## **BONITA SPRINGS FIRE-RESCUE OFFERS DISASTER TRAINING FOR THE COMMUNITY**

The Bonita Springs Fire Control and Rescue District recognizes the need to be able to incorporate and utilize help from the community during certain emergency or disaster situations. Bonita Springs Fire-Rescue has taken a proactive stance in this area by training citizens to be part of a CERT, Community Emergency Response Team.

The CERT Program provides education about disaster preparedness for hazards that may impact Bonita Springs and trains citizens in basic disaster related response skills. Using the training learned in the classroom and during exercises, CERT members can be called upon to assist others in their neighborhood or workplace. CERT members are able to take a more active role in emergency preparedness projects in their community.

The Bonita Springs Fire Control and Rescue District CERT program is designed to support and integrate into disaster plans. The CERT program is intended to be a partnership between the Fire District and local neighborhoods or Bonita Springs' communities that will ultimately reduce the death, injury, and property loss caused by major disasters.

Classes are taught at Bonita Springs Fire-Rescue Station Four at 27701 Bonita Grande Drive throughout the year. To become a CERT member, you must attend a two-day, 16 hour course. After this has been completed, you are eligible to be called-out to an emergency scene.

This class is free of charge and you must be at least 18 years old. There are not any physical limitations. The next CERT basic training class will be held on Thursday and Friday, May 1 & 2 from 8:30 a.m. until 5:00 p.m. If you would like to sign-up for the class, please email Natalie Hughes at [natalieh@bonitifire.org](mailto:natalieh@bonitifire.org) or call 239-949-6227. Space is limited!

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