



## San Mateo Consolidated Fire Department Community Emergency Response Team Online CERT Course – Unit 6 Fire Safety & Utilities

Attn: SMC Fire CERT Students – by now you should have completed your “Essential Documents.” Please complete the **Hold Harmless**, **DSW**, and, if appropriate, the **Parent Permission Form**. SAVE copies of all your forms, and items you earn (ie: your Merits) for your records. These will all be necessary for Skills Day.

You also should be taking your **IS-315.A** online class from FEMA. This is a requirement for graduation for our CERT Program.

### Unit 6 = 6.1 and 6.2

#### Fire and Utility Control Unit 6.1

- P.A.S.S. Knowledge test
  - Pull the Pin
  - Aim at the base of the fire
  - Squeeze the lever
  - Sweep side to side
- Wet Standpipes – these hoses are not for CERT use
- Creative Resources
  - Closing doors
  - Bucket of water
  - Wet towel
  - Shovel and dirt
- Personal / Suppression safety
- Roles of CERT Volunteers
  - Extinguish small fires (1 extinguisher, fire the size of office trash can)
  - Remove fuel sources
  - Shut off utilities if necessary
  - Assist with evacuations

- Priorities
  - Rescuer Safety
  - Use of buddy system
  - Wear safety equipment
  - Do greatest good for greatest number of survivors
  
- Fire Triangle – Knowledge check: Heat, Oxygen, Fuel
  
- Classes of Fire
  - A – ordinary combustibles
  - B – flammable liquids
  - C – energized electrical
  - D – combustible metals
  - K – kitchen
  
- CERT Size-up
  - Gather Facts
  - Assess Damage
  - Consider Probabilities
  - Assess Your Situation
  - Establish Priorities
  - Make Decisions
  - Develop Plan of Action
  - Take Action
  - Evaluate Progress
  
- Types of extinguishers
  - Water
  - Dry chemical
  - CO2
  - Specialized
  - Overhaul
    - Cool, soak, separate
  
- P.A.S.S. Knowledge test
  - Pull the Pin
  - Aim at the base of the fire
  - Squeeze the lever
  - Sweep side to side
  
- Wet Standpipes – these hoses are not for CERT use
- Creative Resources
  - Closing doors
  - Bucket of water
  - Wet towel
  - Shovel and dirt

- Personal / Suppression safety
- Test:
  - 1. Number 1 priority: your safety
  - 2. CERT roles: extinguish small fires, shutting off utilities, assist with evacuations, prevent additional fires.
  - 3. 3 elements that must be present for a fire to exist: heat, fuel, oxygen
  - 4. Class B – flammable liquids
  - 4. P.A.S.S. – pull, aim, squeeze, sweep
  - 5. Steps in size-up process – 9

## **Fire Safety and Utility Control Unit 6.2**

- 6 steps to approach / suppress fire
  - Ready position
  - Person 1 says ready, person 2 repeats
  - Person 1 says going in, person 2 repeats
  - Advance towards fire and extinguish (hand on shoulder)
  - When exiting, person 1 says going out, person 2 repeats
  - Person 2 guides person 1. Person 1 faces fire
- CERT volunteers should NOT do Knowledge check
  - Fight large fires
  - Get too close to the fire
  - Fight the fire alone
  - Enter smoke filled rooms
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- Reducing Electrical hazards
- Electrical Emergencies
  - Know where the power shut-offs are
  - Post shut off directions next to the utilities
  - Know the procedures for turning power back on
- Utilities
  - Shut off individual breakers, then main
  - Pull out individual fuses, then the main fuse
  - Shut off for gas valve is off – true
- Circuit Breakers Knowledge check
  - Shut off individual breaker
  - Shut off main breaker
- Natural Gas Hazards
  - Asphyxiant
  - Explosion
- Carbon Monoxide Emergencies
- Natural Gas shutoff

- Know how to shut off
    - If you hear gas escaping or smell gas or see the dials spinning
    - Do not turn back on; licensed technician should be called
- Gas shut-off knowledge check – picture shows the valve perpendicular to the pipe; it is in the “off” position
- Hazardous Materials – remember L.I.E.S.
  - Limit
  - Isolate
  - Eliminate
  - Separate
- Hazardous materials have at least one of these characteristics:
  - Corrosive
  - Explosive
  - Flammable gases or liquids
  - Non-flammable gases
  - Oxidizers
  - Radioactive
- Placards – 704 Diamond – is the same as a Stop sign for CERT members; help evacuation of persons; stay away if any numbers on the diamond are greater than 1
  - Blue – health (1-4)
  - Red – flammability (1-4)
  - Yellow – instability (1-4)
  - White – special hazards (1-4)
    - W with line through = reacts with water
    - OX – oxidizer
    - A - Acid
    - ALK - base
    - COR - corrosive
    - Radioactive symbol
- Globally Harmonizing System (means symbols are similar throughout the world)
- DOT placards (Department of Transportation)
- UN and NA Placards
- ERG – Emergency Response Guide
- Test
  - 1. Tool for turning off gas to meter – non-sparking wrench
  - 2. False – hazardous placard = STOP sign
  - 3. True: CERT goal – greatest good for greatest number
  - 4. Sequence for turning off power to a circuit breaker box: Individual then main breakers