



Carroll County now has a total of 60 citizens who are certified to help their neighbors in the event of an emergency or disaster.

CERT training started in Carroll County in July 2005 with citizens from the Fairfield Community volunteering their time to learn emergency response skills that make their community safer.

The CERT program includes training in disaster preparedness, fire suppression, disaster medical operations (such as triage, treating life threatening injuries, assessment, treatment and hygiene), light urban search and rescue, team organization, disaster psychology and a disaster simulation exercise.

Seasoned instructors from the Carroll County Fire Rescue & EMA, as well as West Georgia Ambulance Service, conduct the training.

When emergencies happen, CERT members can give critical support to first responders (who can easily become overwhelmed in major events), provide immediate assistance to victims, and organize spontaneous volunteers at a disaster site. CERT members are also called upon to assist other counties and states during major disasters.

CERT members can also help with non-emergency projects that help improve the safety of the community, such as making public presentations, assisting with public safety awareness events, and assisting with community disaster exercises.

The CERT training program is provided to Carroll County citizens who are 18 years or older at no cost.

Refresher training for CERT graduates is conducted.