



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