



MEDIA ADVISORY



Contact

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San Francisco Fire Department's Neighborhood Emergency Response Team (NERT)

Disaster Response Drill with NERT Volunteers Saturday, October 15th, 2016

WHAT:

- The SFFD will activate response to a catastrophic event in this day-long simulation drill. Trained NERT volunteers from all over San Francisco will convene at the Marina Middle School (rain or shine) to put their training into action. NERT volunteers will practice search and rescue techniques, patient triage, setting up neighborhood command centers, and other essential disaster response skills.
- SFFD personnel will also exercise the communications and command functions of responding to a large scale earthquake emergency, with emergency reports from the field companies and NERT teams being received and processed at the Battalion Station level.

NERT history:

October 17, 1989, at 5:04PM, the San Francisco Bay Area experienced the devastating effects of the Loma Prieta Earthquake. Many residents, after feeling helpless in the hours and days that followed, realized that they were not prepared; they did not have basic survival skills. Residents reached out to the San Francisco Fire Department and asked for help and NERT was born, Neighborhood Emergency Response Team. 26 years and more than 27,200 trained residents later, NERT is still offering hands on disaster response skills training for FREE to those living and working in San Francisco.

VISUAL TV / PHOTO OPP:

Opportunities are available to take action shots of NERT volunteers in NERT hard hats and emergency response clothing. They will be participating in emergency drill activities simulating search and rescue, triaging victims, communications with SFFD Battalion Chiefs and other disaster operations. Live interview opportunities with NERT Program Instructors, SFFD Chiefs and NERT volunteers.

WHEN:

Saturday October 15, 2016

Drill: 9:00am to 3:00pm

WHERE:

Fort Mason Great Meadow

Bay Street at Octavia

San Francisco CA 94123

WHO:

San Francisco Neighborhood Emergency Response Team graduates, SFFD personnel, interested members of the public, City leaders and representatives from FEMA Region IX leadership.

MEDIA CONTACTS:

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About NERT

The San Francisco Neighborhood Emergency Response Team (NERT) is a disaster preparedness organization sponsored by the San Francisco Fire Department (SFFD). The program offers free, basic and advanced preparedness training to those who live and work in San Francisco, and provides an organizing framework for neighborhood teams in the city.

Teams gather after a disaster to survey their neighborhoods, provide information to the SFFD, conduct light search and rescue and medical triage, and help transport victims to medical treatment facilities. Since the 1989 Loma Prieta earthquake, NERT has trained over 26,500 civilians to assist the San Francisco Fire Department after a major disaster by taking care of themselves, their families, and their neighbors. NERT has held annual Citywide drills since 1992.

More information on upcoming training can be found on the NERT website, www.sfgov.org/sfnert, or by calling 415-970-2022. Video about the NERT program:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aRxWEx7-J3I&feature=youtu.be>

Follow us on Twitter to be alerted: @SFFDNERT or <https://twitter.com/SFFDNERT>

Note: Many of our tweets during our drills will include hazard and emergency notification but should include #NERTdrill to indicate that no actual emergency is taking place.

Follow us on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/sffd.nert>

People can sign up for the next NERT class: <http://www.sf-fire.org/index.aspx?page=879>

