



Helpful Hints for All Hazards Preparedness

Step 3: Training and Volunteer Opportunities

Hopefully you have taken the steps needed to prepare your family emergency/evacuation plans and put together your supply kit(s) that you will need during an emergency or major disaster. The final step is training to better prepare and protect you and/or your family during an unexpected event. Many organizations provide free in class or online awareness and/or skills training, while others charge a minimal fee for training, supplies, etc.

Volunteer opportunities are a great way to learn new skills, meet new people and work with your local/regional responders while providing a service to those in need. Listed below are a few organizations, websites and other information on opportunities that you can get involved in. There are more listed on the UTD OEM website. I encourage and challenge you to take part in National Preparedness Month; to give your time to others, learn a new skill, or learn how to save a life. I guarantee that in the long run, the rewards outweigh the sacrifice.

UTD Office of Emergency Mgmt: Dorothy Miller, Emergency Mgmt Coordinator, X2420
<http://www.utdallas.edu/utdgeneral/business/police/version5/frames.html>

UTD CERT: Community Emergency Response Team, Cpl. Chris Dickson X2383

Citizen Corps Council: <http://www.citizencorps.gov> (Neighborhood Watch, CERT, VIPS)

EMAT - Emergency Management Association of Texas: <http://www.emat-tx.org/>

FEMA online courses: <http://www.fema.gov>

Red Cross Dallas Chapter: <http://www.redcrossdallas.org>

NOAA Storm Ready: <http://www.stormready.noaa.gov/howto.htm>

TXVOAD Texas Volunteer Organizations in Disasters:
<http://www.txvoad.org/synapse/center/homepage.cfm?website=txvoad.org>

Local Humane Societies, Churches, Schools, Senior Centers are also ways to get involved.

Reminder: The UT Dallas Office of Emergency Management Office will host Red Cross Shelter Operations Training, this Friday, Sept 29th (8:30 – 2:30) in Conference Center Rm 1.202. Watch the website for future classes.

