

# PRESS RELEASE

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## **SOUTH COUNTY CERT VOLUNTEERS SOUGHT**

Santa Cruz County's Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) Auxiliary is seeking South County volunteers ready to assist the community during natural disasters and other significant events.

Enrollment is now open for volunteers willing and able to take CERT training on the first three Saturdays in June. Following training, CERT volunteers may be deployed to help the community during disasters, supporting first responders and local emergency response in a low-risk, high-benefit environment to help assure community members are safe during local emergencies.

The first two training sessions will be held at Watsonville Fire Station No. 2, 370 Airport Blvd., from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. on June 1 and June 8. The final training session will be held at Central Fire District Administration Building, 930 17<sup>th</sup> Avenue in Live Oak, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Saturday, June 15. All sessions are required to become a CERT volunteer. Spanish-language materials available.

CERT Training is a no-cost, FEMA-certified course available to Santa Cruz County residents. CERTs are trained in responding to emergencies in their neighborhoods and develop life-saving skills with emphasis on decision-making ability, rescuer safety, and doing the greatest good for the greatest number of people.

With over 600 local CERT volunteers, CERTs help protect neighborhoods, save lives, reduce the impacts of disasters, and contribute to developing a stronger, more resilient community.

To enroll, visit <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/2024BasicWatsonville>. For questions, please visit <https://santacruzcountycert.org/contact-us>.