



Steele County CERT News

01-Aug-2024

June Severe Weather

The June rain and flooding had an impact across the County and Southern Minnesota. Within Steele County, about 20 residents reported some sort of impact. Steele County Emergency Management (SCEM) monitored flood gauge levels and assisted with activities across the County. SCEM accompanied representatives from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), the Small Business Administration (SBA) and Owatonna on 17-Jul. The objective was to determine preliminary damages. The data is used to determine eligibility for support on a state-wide basis.

CPR Training

There is plenty of room for the CPR training on 06-Aug. This was a requested training by the group to be held before the Steele County Free Fair (SCFF). Training will begin at 6:00 on the 3rd floor of the Owatonna Fire Department (OFD). We need to ensure there will be enough instructors and training material. If you plan to participate, please RSVP to:

Thomas.Karnauskas@SteeleCountyMN.gov if you plan to participate.

Steele County Free Fair

Speaking of the SCFF, we once again will share a booth with Steele County Public Health (SCPH). The goal is to staff the booth with two people for each day and hour the fair is open. Two people means (2) CERT, (2) SCPH, or (1) CER and (1) SCPH.

This is a bigger ask than last year. This is the biggest opportunity for CERT to be publicly visible and the potential to recruit new members. We hope you will step up to assist staffing the booth. SignUp Genius is being used to register for time slots. It can be accessed at:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0F4CA5A92CAAFBC61-50435215-steele#/>

CERT Picnic

The group also expressed an interest in a picnic. An interest for individuals to have an opportunity to share the content of their CERT bag(s) and equipment. We are planning to combine the two with a tentative date of 24-Aug. Active CERT members (plus 1) will be invited to the picnic. Time and location are being discussed.

The contents of CERT bags issued at the end of the CERT training changed over time. Many CERT members over time added to their bag or may have additional bags ready to go. This is a good opportunity for everyone to share what works for them with CERT members.

If you received this "CERT News" directly, you are considered an "Active CERT Member".

CERT Trainer Qualification

The CERT training each year is handled by individuals that volunteer to be qualified CERT trainers. The Train-the-Trainer course is available to CERT personnel who have completed CERT Basic Training and are interested in joining the ranks of trainers to teach the Basic Course for their CERT Program.

If you have an interest in being a qualified CERT trainer, an opportunity to participate in the CERT Train-the-Trainer course. The class will be held September 20 - 22 in St. Louis Park. The course is Friday evening, all-day Saturday, and all-day Sunday. Students must complete the full course to receive certification. A minimum class size is 8 and the maximum class size is 20.

Please register by 01-Sep-2024 by email to:

hsem.volunteerresources.dps@state.mn.us

Include your emailing name, position, CERT Program name.

AMEM Conference

Kristen, Megan, and Tom will be attending the annual Association of Minnesota Emergency Managers (AMEM) scheduled for Sep 15-18.

SCEM Office

Steele County Emergency Management is in process of moving into a building on Alexander Dr, across the street from the Steele County Detention Center. The front part of the facility is the SCEM office. Kristen has relocated to her new office. You may also find Megan or Tom working there. The office includes an area for smaller meetings. The remainder of the facility is warehouse space that is being shared by multiple departments.

Construction is still in process. The intent is to move most of the material from OFD to the new building. The additional warehouse space will allow one of the SCEM trailers to be stored inside.

