



Neighbors Helping Neighbors

July-September 2026

Lifetime Achievement Recognition for Cindy Zechenelly (19 May 2026)



The Fire Commissioners and Chief Grider issued a formal proclamation on 19 May to recognize and honor Cindy Zechenelly's **4000+ volunteer hours** and **ten years of dedicated administrative service** to our SOA/CERT Program. Cindy's prodigious CERT administration work consists of registering all new CERT volunteers, coordinating Academy classes, calendaring of CERT events, issuing official IDs, compiling yearend report statistics, supporting public information work while sitting in the CERT information booth at almost every community event, and contributing to CERT's after action reports. Her work hasn't gone unnoticed. In March of 2020, Cindy received formal, state-wide Volunteer Service Award recognition for her many contributions from then-Governor Jay Inslee and the Serve Washington program.

Cindy and Blaine kickstarted our SOA/CERT Program in 2016. Over the following ten years, Cindy has registered and processed over 978 individuals through the CERT Academy. Because Cindy also keeps track of all CERT timesheets, we know that between 2016 and the present, total CERT volunteer hours have been worth \$4,887,416 to our community.

The CERT Program relies on the willingness of citizen volunteers to serve their fellow neighbors in need, without any pay or compensation. Cindy Zechenelly's selfless leadership has supported this highly cost-effective program that materially augments Clallam's professional responders during an emergency. Her indefatigable volunteerism exemplifies the true strength of our community. It is therefore fitting and appropriate to acknowledge and thank Cindy for all she has accomplished throughout these past ten years.



Clallam Ready Sequim News

Happy Summer to our Sequim neighbors! While we enjoy the season, our thoughts are with our Eastern Washington neighbors facing difficult conditions. Please remain aware and alert.

Visit ccfd3.org to view the latest burn restrictions and ways to prepare your homes **BEFORE** an emergency strikes..

Boost your disaster resilience with help from our CRS team who continue to host life-saving workshops including Emergency Preparedness, Practical First Aid and Food Readiness to ensure your family and community can recover quickly after a disaster. Contact us for more information or to schedule a session for yourself or your neighborhood.

Have a great summer and be safe!

ATTENTION!



**COUNTY WIDE BURN
RESTRICTIONS IN
EFFECT AS OF
06/24/2026**

More Information Below

CRS 2026 Calendar
(click image to open)



**Call / email us
to schedule a
class:**
(360) 670-0439
or
clallamready.sequim@gmail.com



June – First Aid Workshop



June – League of Women's



May – Food Ready Workshop



**Are You
Ready?**

(click image to open)



June – Willow Creek Manor



June – Solana



June – Parkwood Food Ready



June – First Aid

In Case You Missed It...

On June 5th, Jim Buck gave his **"Camping in Your House"** presentation to a packed room. When Jim faced an unexpected delay, Blaine Zechenelly seamlessly stepped in to start the presentation. This situation highlights the strong, collaborative partnership between CRS and CERT. Catch the encore event Saturday, Sept. 18th at 10am at Dungeness Community Church. Open to all / no RSVP.

And...

Following a very successful **"Wilderness Survival"** session on July 11th where 30+ neighbors learned about Personal Awareness, Camp Meals and Mapping with Kent Clement, we are excited to announce **"Wilderness Survival II."** Join us Saturday October 10th at 12:30pm at Dungeness Community Church which may include topics such as First Aid/Triage, Ropes, Staying Warm and more! Open to all / no RSVP.



Monthly CRS News!
(click image to open)



Camping In Your House



Wilderness Survival

CRS website: <https://www.bellelealand.net/clallamready> Ph: (360)670-0439 Email: clallamready.sequim@gmail.com

Prepare Today...Survive Tomorrow



CERT 7 CONEX Delivery (28 May)



CERT 7 now has a CONEX storage container that will eventually serve as a “Forward Operating Base” or FOB to support emergency CERT deployments. The CONEX was placed with the cooperation of Dungeness Community Church. Sequim Division Chief John Anzalotti and CERT 7 Captain John Barron were the project leaders who brought this major acquisition to fruition. The box was delivered on 28 May. After it is painted and outfitted with shelves and lighting, **the CONEX will provide secure, weather-proof storage for CERT 7 communications gear, generators, tools, medical supplies and associated emergency supplies.**

Our CERT Program anticipates placing one CONEX each year, subject to available funding and access to suitable locations. If your team has information about a possible CONEX location site for a future placement, please have your team captain inform John Anzalotti.

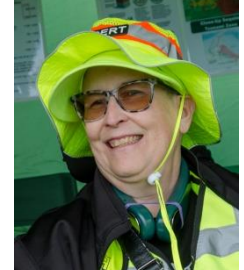
DART Support Training (13 June)



In the event that Clallam's Emergency Management Division (EMD) activates the DART to conduct emergency airlift operations, CERT members at the Sequim Valley, Blue Ribbon and Diamond Point airfields may be asked to provide ground support services to the aircraft. For example, CERTs may be asked to help move cargo from the aircraft to waiting vehicles. In this exercise, the Sequim Food Bank was on hand and ready to receive the food shipments. Donna Stoffel managed the CERT portion of this training exercise. Members from CERT 3, 14 and 2 were present to receive hands-on aircraft safety training. DART support training must be refreshed annually for safety reviews.



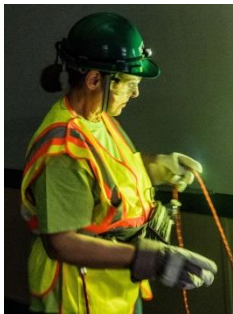
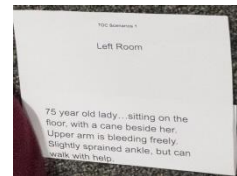
Lavender Festival (17-19 July)



CERT volunteers supported the Lavender Festival in several ways. Beginning with the setup of the CERT and FD3 tents on Thursday, CERTs were on duty Friday, Saturday and Sunday guiding ADA and vendor vehicles to their designated parking areas. The Festival attracts very large numbers of visitors to Sequim, and the Festival organizers showed their appreciation for our CERT volunteers by issuing meal vouchers for lunch purchases. Also present for duty were Sequim Police Volunteers. Members of Trinity United Methodist Church managed parking at their facility and also guided overflow parking to the QFC lot. The CERT booth attracted several persons who showed interest in joining the CERT Program. The next Academy course is scheduled for September.



TOC Search & Rescue Drill (23 July)



Kyle Hall, CERT16 Captain, organized and led a Search & Rescue drill at the TOC. The participants practiced rope, radio, and survivor extrication skills. "Survivors" had "issues" (as described on attached cards) that needed to be addressed. CERT Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) was employed. Such real experiences are always better than book study. It was a great learning opportunity for the CERTs.



Dog Show (24-26 July)



The Hurricane Ridge Kennel Club hosts an annual dog show in Sequim that attracts dog enthusiasts from all over the Pacific Northwest. SOA/CERT volunteers support this community event by helping to guide arriving vehicles into designated parking lanes. Our CERT program benefits from this activity in two ways. First of all, our volunteers are visible to the public and seen as helpful facilitators of a large scale traffic management task; a marketing plus for CERT. Secondly, the Kennel Club appreciates how much better this event flows when parking is handled well and politely by our CERT volunteers; the Club often shows its appreciation by donating to our CERT Program. (NOTE: An eagle was waiting for a "catch & carry" meal.)



(8 August)

Unity of Effort is an annual, Sequim community celebration that recognizes and honors local military, law enforcement, first responders, and security personnel. It is held the second weekend in August at the **Security Services Northwest** headquarters at 250 Center Park Way, Sequim (located just south of Washington Street – behind Jiffy Lube). CERT is not 'working' at this event, but we have established a visible CERT presence, along with Clallam Ready, to inform the visiting public of our respective missions.





Job #1: The “Windshield Survey”

When a major disaster occurs, the SOA/ECC will authorize a CERT mobilization. Even so, our CERT members’ first responsibility will be to ensure the personal safety and the security of their own homes and family. Then they can report to their team leaders and sign on as Washington State Emergency Workers. What will be their first operational task or job #1? They will need to become the eyes and ears of the SOA/ECC by reporting “ground-truth” observations found within their assigned operational areas using the Rapid Needs Assessment (RNA) format. The RNA is the foundational basis of a standard responder action otherwise called the “Windshield Survey.”

Despite our limited numbers of CERT members, our deployed CERTs can still deliver an enormous positive value to our region’s emergency managers because of our widely distributed locations and our radio network. In the earliest hours of our disaster response, CERT “buddy-pairs” can quickly scan their assigned streets and report the scope and severity of each community’s needs. Incident commanders will depend on such information in order to organize an effective response.



The Windshield Survey

by Dave Donohue (excerpted)

Fortunately, large-scale emergencies and disasters that overwhelm resources and communities are a rare occurrence. However, when they do happen, the ability to quickly determine the extent of the incident and an estimate of the community impact are critical to: developing a common operating picture; developing a plan to respond to the incident; and initiating community recovery.

- **Damage Evaluation:** Regardless of the cause, the initial response following a large-scale incident is determining the size and scope of the impact on the community. The **windshield survey** or initial damage assessment allows incident commanders (ICs) to determine how much damage has occurred and evaluate immediate needs to ensure the health, safety, and security of the community...

As part of the initial damage assessment, responders will want to note the status of critical infrastructure and key resources. This will include the condition of roadways, bridges, and tunnels; the ability of critical rail, airport, and marine facilities to function; and the operational condition of the electrical distribution network, sewer, and sanitation systems.

- **Health Assessment:** In addition to providing an estimate of the overall damage to structures within the community, the initial damage assessment also provides an estimate on the current and projected threats to the health of the community. This includes the development of a current casualty estimate as well as future health threats from recovery operations, water and food safety, and sanitation needs.

- **Community Impact:** Once the initial damage assessment is completed, the information is compiled and integrated with other reports to provide a global, **community impact assessment**. From this initial information, ICs and emergency managers can identify response and recovery priorities, determine resource needs, and begin the process of developing and implementing a response and recovery plan.

Rapid assessment of a community is **critical** to establishing incident priorities, response planning and a recovery strategy.

SOURCE: <https://www.firefighternation.com/training/the-windshield-survey/>



Drone Update



Our \$10,000 drone system arrived in mid-July in a torn and partially crushed box that had seen better days. It was an inauspicious beginning. But Steve Robley, our CERT drone expert, inspected the contents and assured us that the drone had arrived successfully inside its protective case, completely undamaged. Whew.

Our next steps will include assembling and testing the new drone and, after we confirm its operability, we'll conduct a demonstration flight for the benefit of First Federal Foundation and FD3 observers. Steve Robley will serve as our chief pilot and trainer. We'll be looking for additional pilots to help fill out our mission capabilities.

Specifically, this is a DJI Matrice 4T package. It is equipped with optical and thermal cameras, extra batteries, extra propellers, a flight controller, a searchlight, a loud-speaker system, and a 21.5" Tactical Field Monitor in a separate protective case. It is designed to support public safety operations.





NEW TRAINING BULLETINS

Have you checked out two new Training Bulletins regarding radio?

- **Training Bulletin 2026-1 All Radios On.** This was taught in the Searcher 1 and Searches 2 Advance training classes the last few months. It is for safety that all members performing Search and Rescue Operation should have their radios on. This is in case one of the members of the Search Team or Rescue Team does not hear an important radio transmission
- **Training Bulletin 2026-2 Radio Drill Procedure.** This new procedure teaches team members to make sure that we provide information that we are just training, in case a member of the public is listening to the channel we are transmitted on.

Both Training Bulletins are on the CERT Training Website Page on the right-hand side below the Academy Classes.

UPDATING THE CERT TRAINING WEBSITE

The Training Committee is reviewing all the training classes listed on the website (in the left-hand column) and will be deleting outdated material. If by chance you have a favorite training class that was created years ago, please let us know so we can ensure that it continues to be available on the website

TIME TO BE THINKING ABOUT TRAINING FOR NEXT CALENDAR YEAR

Each year the Training Committee asks the Captains what classes they would like for the coming year. We try to mix them up, so any snowbird CERT members don't miss the same training each year.

If YOU think that your team needs to learn more about a subject, let us know and we will try to address an offering of that class during the year. Remember, your Captains have 4 months of "Captain's Choice" training that they can do too. Share with your Captain what you think you need.

"ADVANCED CLASSES"

This year the Search and Rescue (SAR) classes were updated as "advanced" classes. We hope you enjoyed the more in-depth classes presented this year. Our objective is to encourage you to observe and adapt to your situation. Every SAR situation is going to be different. We wanted to empower you to know that you can do things in different ways based on your circumstances. We hope that you gained some insight on how you might change who talks on the radio, whether to "change" searching directions, or when to decide to pull out of a structure that becomes dangerous. During SAR, be observant and make decisions that keep you safe.

Refresher Topics for 2026

September – Captain's Choice

October - Great Shakeout & Preparedness

November - ICS Review

December - Captain's Choice or Holiday Break

Training Committee Members

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CERT Calendar

Sept - Nov 2026



Sept. 2	CERT Teams 8 & 10	5:00-7:30 PM	Gardiner
Sept. 3	CERT Team 5	3:00- 5:00PM	KSQM
Sept. 3	CERT Team 4	6:00-7:00PM	Sunland
Sept. 5	CERT Team 11	10 AM-Noon	KSQM
Sept. 7	CERT Team 2	10 AM-Noon	Gard or St35
Sept. 8	CERT Team 12	5:00-6:30 PM	DCC
Sept. 10	CERT Team 7	2:00 -5:00 PM	KSQM
Sept. 10	CERT Team 3	6:00 -8:00 PM	Parkwood
Sept. 12	CERT Class 1	7 AM - 5 PM	KSQM
Sept. 15	CERT Team 13	6:00 - 7:30 PM	Agnew Hall
Sept. 16	CERT Team 17	5:00 - 7:00 PM	
Sept. 17	CERT Team 14	6:30- 8:30 PM	Seq.Gränge
Sept. 19	CERT Class 2	7 AM - 5 PM	TOC
Sept. 22	CERT Team 6	10:00-2:00 PM	KSQM
Sept. 24	CERT Team 1	5:00 -7:00 PM	Dom Terr
Sept. 24	CERT Team 16 & 9	6:00 - 7:00 PM	KSQM
Sept. 26	CERT Class 3	7 AM - 5 PM	TOC
Oct. 1	CERT Team 5	3:00- 5:00PM	KSQM
Oct. 1	CERT Team 4	6:00-7:00PM	Sunland
Oct. 2	CERT Team 11	10 AM-Noon	KSQM
Oct. 3	Safety Fair	9:00AM-4:00PM	Guy Cole
Oct. 5	CERT Team 2	10 AM-Noon	Gard or St35
Oct. 7	CERT Teams 8 & 10	5:00-7:30 PM	Gardiner
Oct. 8	CERT Team 7	2:00 -5:00 PM	KSQM
Oct. 8	CERT Team 3	6:00 -8:00 PM	Parkwood
Oct. 10	CERT Class 1	7 AM - 5 PM	KSQM
Oct. 13	CERT Team 12	5:00-6:30 PM	DCC
Oct. 15	OPS Review	1:00 - 2:00 PM	KSQM
Oct. 15	CERT Team 14	6:30- 8:30 PM	Seq.Gränge

Oct. 17	CERT Class 2	7 AM - 5 PM	TOC
Oct. 20	CERT Team 13	6:00 - 7:30 PM	Agnew Hall
Oct. 21	CERT Team 17	5:00 - 7:00 PM	
Oct. 16	CERT Team 1	5:00 -7:00 PM	Dom Terr
Oct. 22	CERT Team 16 & 9	6:00 - 7:00 PM	KSQM
Oct. 24	CERT Class 3	7 AM - 5 PM	TOC
Oct. 27	CERT Team 6	10:00-2:00 PM	KSQM
Nov. 2	CERT Team 2	10 AM-Noon	Gard or St35
Nov. 4	CERT Teams 8 & 10	5:00-7:30 PM	Gardiner
Nov. 5	CERT Team 5	3:00- 5:00PM	KSQM
Nov. 5	CERT Team 4	6:00-7:00PM	Sunland
Nov. 7	CERT Class 1	7 AM - 5 PM	TOC
Nov. 7	CERT Team 11	10 AM-Noon	KSQM
Nov. 10	CERT Team 12	5:00-6:30 PM	DCC
Nov. 12	CERT Team 7	2:00 -5:00 PM	KSQM
Nov. 12	CERT Team 3	6:00 -8:00 PM	Parkwood
Nov. 14	CERT Class 2	7 AM - 5 PM	TOC
Nov. 17	CERT Team 13	6:00 - 7:30 PM	Agnew Hall
Nov. 18	CERT Team 17	5:00 - 7:00 PM	
Nov. 19	CERT Team 1	5:00 -7:00 PM	Dom Terr
Nov. 19	CERT Team 14	6:30- 8:30 PM	Seq.Gränge
Nov. 21	CERT Class 3	7 AM - 5 PM	TOC
NOV. 24	CERT Team 6	10:00-2:00 PM	KSQM
Nov. 25	CERT Team 16 & 9	6:00 - 7:00 PM	KSQM
Nov. 28	Tractor Parade		