

The 2011 Prairie State Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) Challenge was held at the Northeastern Illinois Public Safety Training Academy (NIPSTA) in Glenview, on October 1, 2011.

The Community Emergency Response Team of Huntley participated in testing their skills and preparedness to respond to disasters. Among the skills tested were:

- Command – this station allows the team an opportunity to show their organization and command structure
- Triage – teams will triage patients and sort them based on their medical status
- Treatment – “patients” will be dressed in moulage for specific injuries, teams must treat each injury
- Transport – Teams will assess “victims”, and transport them to a treatment area
- Search – Two-person teams will search and retrieve “victims”
- Fire & Hazardous Materials Identification – Each team will identify material hazards and suppress a small fire
- Cribbing – Teams will free a “victim” who is trapped under debris
- Evidence Identification – Teams will search a field for debris
- Size-up – Teams will complete size-up of an “incident site”
- Team Building – A strike team of members will complete a team building exercise

The Huntley CERT team scored well in all categories.

CERT is about training people to be prepared for floods, tornados, accidents, storms or whatever else might turn our world upside down. After learning how to make sure you and your family are safe, you learn how to help your neighbors and community. If you would like to be prepared contact Sergeant Mike Hewitt, mhewitt@huntley.il.us or 847-515-5334 for training formation.