



# READINESS RULES

“Readiness Saves Lives”

<http://www.osep.uga.edu>

Office of Security & Emergency Preparedness Bulletin

January 2009

## Featured Article



### UGA Community Emergency Response Team (UGA CERT)

The UGA CERT program educates the campus community about disaster preparedness and trains them in basic disaster response skills, such as fire safety, light search and rescue, team organization and disaster medical operations. This training allows the UGA CERT members the ability to assist in giving critical support to others in the event of a campus disaster. The program is free and open to all UGA faculty, staff and students.

**UGA CERT WINTER CLASS 2009 DATES HAVE BEEN SET.** All classes will be held from 3:00 - 5:30 pm on the specified date.

#### Class Dates:

- **February 4, 2009**, Disaster Preparedness, Room 253 Miller Learning Center
- **February 11, 2009**, Fire Safety, Environmental Safety Division's FIRST Building
- **February 18, 2009**, Disaster Medical Operations - Part 1 & Part 2, Room 253 Miller Learning Center
- **February 25, 2009**, Light Search and Rescue Operations, Environmental Safety Division's FIRST Building
- **March 4, 2009**, CERT Organization & Disaster Psychology, Room 253 Miller Learning Center

- **March 11, 2009**, Terrorism and CERT, Room 253 Miller Learning Center
- **March 18, 2009**, Course Review and Disaster Simulation, location to be announced

UGA CERT WINTER CLASS 2009 registration available at [www.osep.uga.edu](http://www.osep.uga.edu). **Note:** Deadline for class registration is January 30, 2009.



The first UGA CERT class graduation ceremony was held on December 8, 2008.

### UGAAlert and Severe Weather Awareness Drill Planned

UGA will conduct a test of the UGAAlert emergency notification system in conjunction with the Statewide Severe Weather Drill on Wednesday, February 4, 2009. The Weather Drill will be initiated by the National Weather Service (NWS).



Severe Weather Awareness Week will be kicked off by Governor Sonny Perdue with a Proclamation proclaiming the week of February 2-6, 2009, as Severe Weather Awareness Week in Georgia.

The UGAAlert system is used to send emergency messages to the UGA campus community when immediate action is needed due to life threatening emergencies.



Periodic tests of the UGAAlert emergency notification system are necessary to evaluate our ability to issue timely emergency messages when immediate action is required. Please make sure your information is accurate prior to the test by going to <http://ugaalert.uga.edu> and logging in using your MyID and password.

Also, it is advisable to program **706-542-0111** into your phone as UGAAlert so you will immediately recognize all incoming calls from the UGAAlert system.

The UGAAlert system plays an important role in the weather drill by providing feedback on UGA's ability to send out emergency messages to the UGA campus. Campus departments and units should also think about redundant warning systems, such as a NOAA all hazard weather radio.

In order to get feedback from the drill, a survey form will be posted on OSEP's Web site [www.osep.uga.edu](http://www.osep.uga.edu). Additional information regarding the Severe Weather Drill will be provided to Building Safety and Security Representatives (BSSRs). BSSRs may contact OSEP at 706-542-5845 if they would like a safe shelter survey of their building for suggested shelter locations in case of weather related emergencies.

### University Winter Weather Closing Information:

- Visit the website: [www.uga.edu/news](http://www.uga.edu/news)
- Listen to Athens radio stations:  
A.M. dial: 960 and 1340  
F.M. dial: 88.9, 90.5, 91.7, 97.9, 102.1, 103.7, 106.1

## Weather Radios Save Lives



According to *NOAA Magazine*, the tornadoes that tore across the Southeast on March 1, 2007 struck after significant advance warning from the National Weather Service (NWS). Preliminary Tornado Warning lead times—the amount of time between the issuance of a Tornado Warning and the touchdown of a tornado—ranged from 12 minutes to 55 minutes, providing critical time for the emergency message to sound NOAA Weather Radio, commercial radio, and television and tornado sirens. For Enterprise, Alabama, the preliminary tornado lead time was 18 minutes.



Although there are no guarantees any structure can withstand a powerful tornado, sheltering provides your best chance of survival. For this reason, early warning is essential to saving lives. Because you may not be able to hear outdoor warning sirens inside buildings, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) weather radios are recommended for all homes, college residence halls, and offices. Weather radios are available, starting around \$20, at mass-market retailers such as Target, Wal-Mart, Best Buy, etc., and on the Web. More information is available through the Weather Service's NOAA weather radio Web site: <http://www.nws.noaa.gov/nwr> as well as from OSEP's Web site: [www.osep.uga.edu](http://www.osep.uga.edu).

NOAA radios broadcast National Weather Service warnings, watches, forecasts, and other non-weather related hazard information 24 hours a day. During an emergency, NWS forecasters interrupt routine broadcasts and send a special tone activating local weather radios. Weather radios equipped with a special alarm tone feature sound an alert to give you immediate information about a life-threatening situation. NOAA's radio network is an all-hazards system. It provides watches and warnings for natural incidents such as hurricanes, floods, tornadoes, thunderstorms, winter storms, oil spills, 911 telephone outages, AMBER alerts, and terrorist attacks.

The hearing-and-visually impaired can get these warnings by connecting weather radios with alarm tones to strobe lights, pagers, bed-shakers, personal computers, and text printers. A battery-operated weather radio will also advise you of emergency conditions at home, work, traveling, on vacation, or at play.

A NOAA weather radio may be the best money you ever spend. Make sure the radio you buy has seven channels, an audible or visual warning alert feature, and battery backup. An important feature available on many NOAA weather radio models is Specific Area Message Encoding (SAME) technology that lets users pre-select the alerts they want to receive based upon the area where they live, allowing residents to tailor their weather radio alerts to their specific area.

We encourage campus departments and individuals to make this small investment in safety—your life could depend on it!

Adapted from the NOAA Magazine and FEMA Release Number: 1679-009

### *From the Homepage*

OSEP's Web Site: [www.osep.uga.edu](http://www.osep.uga.edu)

- ▶ *Readiness Rules Bulletins*
- Past issues are available from the News Link on OSEP's homepage.*

## **Office of Security and Emergency Preparedness Training Classes**

The following OSEP training classes are available to all departments by request. Classes are scheduled regularly at various campus locations and/or online. A complete listing of current classes, registration and details are available on OSEP's homepage [www.osep.uga.edu](http://www.osep.uga.edu). Other classes are available by request.

- ▶ Basic Emergency Preparedness
- ▶ Building Safety and Security Representatives (BSSR) Orientation

- ▶ Campus Emergencies: Responses to Violence
- ▶ Dawg Watch: Preventing Acts of Terrorism on the UGA Campus
- ▶ Incident Command System- NIMS ICS 100.a Training is also available online at: <http://training.fema.gov/IS/crslist.asp>.
- ▶ National Incident Management System - NIMS IS 700 Training is also available online at: <http://training.fema.gov/IS/crslist.asp>.
- ▶ Pandemic Flu Preparedness
- ▶ Travel Safety and Security

*For additional information or questions on training classes, please contact the Office of Security and Emergency Preparedness at (706) 542-5845 or email: [osep@uga.edu](mailto:osep@uga.edu)*



We'd like to hear from you...  
Please email us at: [osep@uga.edu](mailto:osep@uga.edu)  
or call us at (706) 542-5845.

## **Active Shooter Response Training Video in Production**

The Office of Security and Emergency Preparedness, UGA Police Department and other representatives from UGA and University System of Georgia institutions collaborated to produce an active shooter response video for University System of Georgia institutions. More information about the video will be posted on OSEP's Web site [www.osep.uga.edu](http://www.osep.uga.edu) when the project is completed in February 2009.

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<http://listserv.uga.edu/archives/osep-news-1.html>