



# READINESS RULES

“Knowledge Saves Lives”

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

University Office of Security Preparedness Bulletin

November 2005

## Featured Article

### Ready or Not, Here it Comes

*Ryan Logan*

Disaster strikes – a tornado, a hurricane, an airplane crash, a fire – on campus, or in your neighborhood. Are you prepared to protect yourself, your family, your neighbors, and your neighborhood?



The Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) is an all-risk, all-hazard educational program offered jointly by the East Georgia Chapter of the American Red Cross and the Athens-Clarke County Fire and Emergency Services. The CERT program is designed to produce a pool of citizens educated in disaster preparedness to provide leadership and coordination during an emergency and to provide immediate assistance to victims until trained emergency personnel arrive on the scene. We must be prepared!

CERT education teaches citizens to serve in teams as a crucial resource capable of performing many of the emergency functions needed in the immediate post-disaster period. Participants learn how to:

- Locate and turn off utilities if it is safe to do so

- Treat the three medical killers by opening airways, controlling bleeding, and treating shock
- Provide basic medical aid
- Search for and rescue victims safely
- Help survivors and rescuers cope with emotional stress
- Organize themselves and spontaneous volunteers
- Collect disaster intelligence to support responding emergency personnel

CERT programs are being offered in communities around the country. The program requires a commitment of one evening a week from 6:30 to 9:30 P.M. for eight consecutive weeks. The next class is scheduled to begin on Tuesday, January 10, 2006 at Fire Station 8 on Jefferson Road. Classes are offered at no cost and missed classes may be made up.

I would encourage you to make CERT a priority in the upcoming new year. Let's prepare your neighborhood, the University community, and Athens-Clarke County for the unexpected. If you are interested in the CERT program and would like additional information or to download a course registration form, please go to the CERT website: <http://eastgeorgia.redcross.org> or call the Red Cross at (706) 353-1645.

Together, we can prepare.

*Ryan Logan is the Emergency Services Director for the East Georgia Chapter of the American Red Cross and the Athens-Clarke County CERT Program Coordinator. Ryan has an extensive history in emergency communications and emergency management having previously worked for the UGA Police Department, Athens-Clarke County Police Department, and the Georgia Office of Homeland Security/Georgia Emergency Management Agency.*



CERT members are demonstrating different ways to carry a victim during rescue efforts.

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University of Georgia faculty, staff, and students who have completed the CERT program include:

**Mary Cash** – Retired from Department of Counseling, College of Education  
**Opal Haley** – Office of Security Preparedness  
**Barbie Hendrix** – Registrar's Office  
**John Hill, IV** – Student  
**Wesley Kolar** – Environmental Safety Division, Haz Mat Team  
**Juliette Maybay** – Student (Veterinary student and employed in Clinical Pathology Lab)  
**Kay McMann** – Retired from UGA  
**Melinda Pethel** – Veterinary Medicine (member Haz Mat Team)  
**Ed Rollor** – Center for Mass Destruction Defense (Pharmacy School)  
**Marlee Stewart** – Department of Exercise Science  
**Frances White** – Office of Security Preparedness

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## UGA's Role in Katrina Relief Efforts

The University of Georgia responded in many ways to assist our neighbors from the Gulf Coast region following the devastation of Hurricane Katrina. UGA enrolled 70 displaced students, housed 31 of these students, provided emergency shelter for 609 evacuees, prepared facilities to house up to 570 additional evacuees and 100 displaced dogs, established a website to register volunteers, provided counselors for evacuees, sent teams into the stricken area, and raised money for affected individuals. Additionally, many UGA faculty, staff, and students worked independently or through their volunteer and faith-based groups to offer relief to those affected by this devastating event.

The reassignment of the University's Emergency Operations Manager position from the Environmental Safety Division to the Office of Security Preparedness in early August placed the Office of Security Preparedness in a lead role in UGA's Hurricane Katrina relief efforts during September. We were glad to have the opportunity to work with countless departments and individuals to provide assistance to 609 New Orleans evacuees. These evacuees were airlifted to Georgia following the flooding in New Orleans caused by breaches in the levee system.

Although Hurricane Katrina was not a local emergency, the University and entire state of Georgia was called upon to respond quickly. Hurricane Katrina made landfall in Louisiana on the morning of August 29. The levee system was breached around 11am. The mayor ordered a mandatory evacuation of New Orleans on August 31. On Thursday, September 1, UGA received notification from the Board of Regents Central Office that the two UGA shelters may be activated.

The Rock Eagle 4-H Center in Putnam County and the Ramsey Center on the UGA campus were placed on standby for potential activation and setup of these facilities began. Rock Eagle was ready for occupancy on September 2 and the first evacuees began arriving late on Sunday, September 4. By

Monday morning, 609 evacuees were housed at the Rock Eagle 4-H Center. Working with the Central Georgia Chapter of the American Red Cross and local EMA Director, and supported by hundreds of volunteers and community partners, the outstanding staff at Rock Eagle served the needs of the evacuees for 18 days until transitional housing was found for all evacuees. The shelter was closed on September 22.

Although the Ramsey Center was not activated as an emergency shelter, nonetheless it was made ready by Monday, September 5, thanks to the East Georgia Chapter of the American Red Cross and many UGA faculty, staff, students, administrators and community partners who gave up their Labor Day weekend to meet this critical need.

The list of individuals who contributed to UGA's Hurricane Katrina relief efforts is far too long to list here. However, we sincerely appreciate the efforts of everyone who contributed to the success of this massive humanitarian effort.



Winter weather can change in a very short period of time...**BE PREPARED BEFORE YOU TRAVEL!** Check out the weather first! The following websites may be helpful in your winter travels:

\* University of Georgia Weather - Quick link to skycam views provided by the Climatology Research Lab  
<http://www.uga.edu/atsc/wx/>

\* Georgia State Climatology Office - housed in the University of Georgia, within the Biological and Agricultural Engineering Dept.  
<http://climate.engr.uga.edu/index.html>

\* Georgia Weather - weather links and detailed forecasts for Georgia and over 1500 US cities, weather cams, kid's weather, and more....  
<http://www.wxusa.com/GA>

\* Georgia - Local forecasts, and live GA weather cams  
<http://weatherlook.net/ga.shtml>

\* Local and world weather forecasts, driving forecast, auto advisor, business travel, and more...  
<http://www.weather.com>

\* Marine Weather  
<http://www.srh.noaa.gov/mob/marine.shtml>

\* National Severe Weather Warnings & Weather Information Highway  
[http://www.fox5atlanta.com/weather/wx\\_links.html](http://www.fox5atlanta.com/weather/wx_links.html)

\* National Weather Service (active warnings)  
<http://www.nws.noaa.gov>

\* A variety of weather links are provided in the following website:  
<http://www.srh.noaa.gov/tlh/wxhwy.html>  
 including:

--Government Weather Information (hurricane center bulletins, tropical weather conditions, national climate data center, and more...)

-- University Weather Services (listing of various university weather resources)

-- Regional Climate Centers (Northeast Regional Climate Center, Midwestern Climate Center, Southern Regional Climate Center, etc.)

-- Satellite Images, Weather Maps and Movies

-- World Weather (websites of National Weather Services worldwide and others)



Upcoming Issue: Meet the new UOSP Emergency Operations Manager.