



286 South Street
Hyannis, Massachusetts
02601
Phone: (508) 775-1540
Or (866) 762-1928

Media Alert **MEDIA ALERT**

Contact: Michael
Robbins, Rebecca Alden,
Training Administrators
train@cciredcross.org
(508) 775-1540 x 24

American Red Cross Organizes Disaster Volunteer Training on Base on September 19th and 20th

Sandwich, MA August 19, 2009- Two American Red Cross Instructors, Rebecca Alden and Jennifer Carlson-Benoit will teach introductory courses to become a Red Cross Volunteer in Disaster Services. These classes will begin on September 19th and 20th from 9 am to 5 pm. After the training, you will become a certified Red Cross Volunteer, and with some experience can be deployed locally as well as nationally. The class is open to anyone 17 years and up who would like to become a Red Cross Disaster Action Team Member. There are no other prerequisites and all classes are free.

Once trained, Volunteers can work in various fields of expertise, especially focused on opening, operating, and closing the shelter facilities which are part of MEMA's Cape Cod Emergency Traffic Plan at the Massachusetts Military Reservation (MMR). When not working on the MMR, it's also possible to respond to a local disaster (house fire, airplane crash, oil spill, etc.), or to deploy off-Cape to other states where a disaster has struck.

The training consists of the following classes:

- Fulfilling Our Mission
- Mass Care
- Shelter Operations
- Shelter Simulation
- Psychological First Aid

Volunteer applications will be available at the class or you can download one ahead of time online at **capecodandislandsredcross.org**. All classes are required to become a certified volunteer. A Federal Background check is required of all participants. Classes will start promptly at 9 AM. There will be fifteen minute breaks in the AM & PM, plus about an hour lunch each day.

Sign up for this Volunteer training is only possible by calling our Training Administrators Michael Robbins or Rebecca Alden at 508-775-1540 x24, or by sending an email to Train@cciredcross.org. Please provide your name, town, and telephone number **by September 7th**. We will contact you with the location on the MMR where the class will be held.

For more information about Disaster Services Training or to support the American Red Cross Cape Cod Islands Chapter, please write to 286 South Street, Hyannis, MA 02601, call (508) 775-1540 x 24 or visit capecodandislandsredcross.org

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