



American Red Cross

Cape Cod and Islands Chapter

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Media ALERT

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American Red Cross, Cape Cod and Islands Chapter offers FREE Volunteer classes at Sandwich Community School, starting January 3rd, 2011

Hyannis, MA, November 28th, 2010 - The American Red Cross, Cape Cod and Islands Chapter will offer Free Volunteer classes at the Sandwich Community School, beginning Monday, January 3, 2011. Each class will run 3 hours every Monday for 6 weeks. There are no pre-requisites and no fees. This course is open to all ages, 18 and up, who would like to become Red Cross Volunteers. Registration for the Become a Red Cross Volunteer class is available at scslearn.org or by calling (508) 888-5300.

Volunteers are trained to work in various fields of expertise, including participating in your local community activities, responding to a local disaster (house fire, airplane crash, oil spill), or deploying to different parts of our nation where a disaster has struck (Katrina, California wildfires, Iowa floods, Western Massachusetts Ice storms).

All **“Become a Red Cross Volunteer”** classes will be held at the Sandwich Community School. Registration for the course is available through the school online at scslearn.org or call (508) 888-5300.

The schedule is as follows:

- January 3: Disaster Services
- January 10: Psychological First Aid
- January 17: Holiday
- January 24: Shelter Operations
- January 31: Shelter Simulation
- February 7: Client Casework Part I
- February 14: Client Casework Part II
- February 21: Extra if need be for missed classes

Classes start promptly at 6PM and usually run 3 hours. A Federal Background check is required of all participants. Participants must attend all six classes in order to receive their certification. February 21st, is reserved as make-up date. Other Red Cross volunteers may take a class depending on classroom space availability.

After the training, you will understand the Mission and Philosophy of the Red Cross that reaches worldwide. You will learn how to work in a shelter and assist affected people while driving an ERV (Emergency Response Vehicle). You will learn the steps taken to assist clients in the event of an emergency. You will also learn first hand from other volunteers who have traveled near and far, talk about their experiences with the Red Cross. Once you have completed this course, you will be a certified Red Cross Volunteer and eligible to take CPR/AED, and First Aid Training classes FREE OF CHARGE.

The training of volunteers is only possible thanks to the donations from members of the local community, individuals, businesses and foundations. The Red Cross does not receive government funding for its disaster relief services.

For more information about volunteering, training or making a donation to the Cape Cod and Islands Chapter, American Red Cross, go to the website, cciredcross.org, call (508) 775-1540 or write to American Red Cross, Cape Cod and Islands Chapter, 286 South Street, Hyannis, MA 02601