



**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 Volunteer Becky Alden from South Dennis accepted to teach National Red Cross Disaster classes

Hyannis, Mass, March 27th, 2008 – Rebecca Alden from South Dennis has recently finalized all training and is now qualified as one of two National Red Cross instructors for the Disaster Instructor Specialty Training on Cape Cod and the Islands.

This means that the chapter now has the people resources available locally to train even more disaster volunteers. The chapter is currently gearing up for the summer season, planning disaster shelter simulation drills and expanding the number of disaster volunteers to ensure to have enough volunteers in each town ready to support disaster-affected clients from local fires, storms, hurricanes, etc.

Becky Alden is a volunteer extraordinaire. She received the Red Cross Heroes award a few years ago and works tirelessly to support all disaster volunteers and the small chapter staff, by ensuring that Disaster Services Training classes are being offered regularly. Becky has volunteered locally and nationally for the Red Cross for the past eighteen years.

The American Red Cross, Cape Cod and Islands Chapter currently has almost 600 volunteers on Cape Cod, Martha's Vineyard and Nantucket. It has three Emergency Response Vehicles in place, to support firefighters, police and other emergency personnel on the scene of local emergencies as well as have a safe place for victim support.

The Red Cross works in direct support with individuals and businesses on Cape Cod, Martha's Vineyard and Nantucket. During the past few months alone the Cape Cod and Islands Chapter and Red Cross trained volunteers have:

- ✓ Responded to more than 12 fires and a plane crash;
- ✓ Provided 14 families with food, clothing, a place to stay and other assistance;
- ✓ Supported the first responders at each emergency with food, snacks and drinks;
- ✓ Prepared for four winter storms and were on-call 24 hours a day;
- ✓ Provided CPR/AED, First Aid, Choke-saver, Pet First Aid and other life saving training to our community;
- ✓ Ensured that each shelter in every town has pre-positioned shelter supplies;
- ✓ Pre-positioned 7 trailers with shelter supplies to be ready to be moved to where they're most needed;
- ✓ Provided emergency preparedness presentations throughout the community;
- ✓ Provided more than 100 boy and girl scouts with a special first aid/emergency preparedness class;
- ✓ Begun delivering CPR/AED training to high school students using a new on-line training tool;
- ✓ Proactively reached out to the Brazilian community to provide CPR and AED classes in Portuguese, and more...

All American Red Cross disaster assistance is free, made possible by voluntary donations of time and money from the American people. You can help the victims of disasters locally by making a financial gift to the American Red Cross Local Disaster Relief Fund, which enables the Red Cross to provide shelter, food, counseling and other assistance to victims of disaster.

Contributions to the Cape Cod and Islands Disaster Relief Fund may be sent to your local American Red Cross chapter at 286 South Street, Hyannis, MA 02601. Tel. (508) 775-1540. Internet users can make a secure online contribution by visiting www.capecodandislandsredcross.org

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