



Warren CERT eNews



Not if..... When Always Vigilant - Always Prepared

Volume 2 Issue 4

June 2016

This newsletter is brought to you by the Executive Board and is meant to give you the latest news and information from around the organization.
Editor - Mike Riley

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- Fire Hydrants: Nouveau Art or Colors with a plan
- CERT receives honor from Warren Firefighters.
- Call-Out Review
- Scheduled Events & Training
- The importance of a “good” flashlight to the CERT member
- Heat Awareness
- Additional Information

WEATHER RADIOS

Weather radios are to weather what smoke detectors are to smoke in your home; **A LIFE SAVING DEVICE.**



Just like a smoke detectors let you know that there may be a danger in your house; a weather radio’s alarm going off tells you a danger may be approaching your home. There are many choices for weather radios but the best one is one you own! Weather radios are available almost anywhere. In the recent years CERT has worked with Midland Radio at ABC Appliance and Meijer’s hosting Weather Radio days. We recently worked with Midland and Channel4 WDIV to host a radio day at Meijer's on May 18th. Meijer's still has radios available from that event and last we checked they were still on sale.

In a Facebook post today a discussion came up about how normal weather radios are inadequate for Hard of Hearing individuals. We were glad to be able to advise that there is a visual Alert-Strobe Light available that plugs right in to the Midland Weather Radios.



<https://midlandusa.com/product/18-str/>



CERT RECEIVES HONORS FROM WARREN FIRE DEPT.

At our first 2016 fundraiser at Leason's Dairy Bar and Grille CERT was surprised with an honor from Warren Fire Dept.

It is particularly honoring to be recognized for making our city a better and safer place to live and work.

- > Commissioner McAdams
- > Chief Frederick
- > Warren Fire Fighters Local 1383
- > All the dedicated men and women of the Warren Fire Dept.

Thank You!



FIRE HYDRANTS: NOVEAU ART OR COLORS WITH A PURPOSE

Have you ever wondered if there was any rhythm or reason to the colors on fire hydrants?? Me too!

Well there is.... Kind of.

The National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) recommends that fire departments and water districts follow a set standard of color-coding.

Known as NFPA 291, it says fire hydrants using public water supply systems should be painted chrome yellow, and their tops and caps should indicate the available GPM (Gallons per Minute).

Below 500GPM should be red,
500-999 GPM should be orange,
1000-1499 GPM should be green,
and 1500 GPM or more should be blue



Compliance to this standard is optional. Fire Dept. personal will know the capacity and capabilities in their city.

See more here:

<https://goo.gl/XZxh7w>

Which one is your favorite?



CALL OUTS AND DEPLOYMENTS

We had 3 callout's in May.... However one of them qualifies to make the top 10 list.

On Wed. 5/11 CERT assisted on a pole fire at Wagner & Herbert area.

On Thu. 5/12 CERT assisted on a downed wire at Prospect & Fairfield

And last but not least... On Mon 5/23 at approx. 10:15 dispatch requested CERT to assist on a downed wires/traffic light out situation at Ryan & 14 Mile. We don't have all the details but apparently there was a motor vehicle accident that took-out the control box for all the lights at that intersection. CERT was utilized in multiple capacities, there was some active traffic control and some barricade "babysitting".

As this was on the Warren / Sterling Heights border there was some interaction and casual discussions with Sterling Heights officers standing by throughout the day. In a few of the conversations S.H. officers mentioned how impressed that were with CERT's professionalism and expertise.

WAY TO GO TEAM!!

We are still finalizing the hours from that event but we had a dozen members on several shifts and totaled over 75 hours.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Full details available at meetings and in emails when plans are confirmed.

June 21 Tuesday 4:00 PM - 8:00 PM Leason's Dairy Bar & Grill - Fund Raiser

June 24 & 25 Center Line Festival Small crew needed 24th. All hands on deck for 25/Fireworks. Mr. Slupinski is coordinating.

July 4th - Halmich Park No-Fireworks patrol

July 08, 09, 10 Fri, Sat, Sun 6:00 PM - 11:00 PM MEA Festival Help Needed Sat/Sun, Lights Needed Fri/Sat/Sun - Still pending but probably a go.

July 17 Sunday 12:00 - 4:00 PM Family Safety Day @ Oakland County Fairgrounds

July 19 Tuesday 4:00 PM - 8:00 PM Leason's Dairy Bar & Grill - Fund Raiser

August 16 Tuesday 4:00 PM - 8:00 PM Leason's Dairy Bar & Grill - Fund Raiser

Birthday Bash Aug 25th - 28th

August 25 Thursday - Tacom Day - Prism Lights

August 26 Friday - Fireworks - Prism Lights

August 27 Saturday - Laser Light Show - Prism Lights

September 13 Tuesday 4:00 PM - 8:00 PM Leason's Dairy Bar & Grill - Fund Raiser

October 11 Tuesday 4:00 PM - 8:00 PM Leason's Dairy Bar & Grill - Fund Raiser

October 15 Saturday 4:00 PM - 9:00 PM Harvest Treat / Trunk -N- Treat

Candy / Item Hand-Out

Patrol (Rocks by Garage and others)

October 23 Sunday 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM Relay for Life Zombie 5K

November 12 Saturday 9:00 AM - 1:00 PM CPR/First Aid

December 03 Saturday Tree Lightning

This is a quick rundown and subject to change as events are added and dropped. Make sure you subscribe to the official CERT calendar for the latest information and updates.

When looking for a flashlight for your CERT Gear there are a couple of things to keep in mind. Having a flashlight you can trust to work when you need it is critical. With the introduction and advancement of LED technologies, getting a good flashlight without breaking the bank has become easier than ever.



Which flashlight should I buy??? A good place to start is the brand MAGLITE. These USA made lights are not only durable, available in LED, easy to change the batteries and run off of standard batteries, they have a very wide array of accessories. From belt holders to traffic wands and more, these flashlights can easily be accessorized to better serve your deployment. To get into a 2D Cell LED MAGLITE you will be spending about \$40.00. Make sure to rotate your batteries and carry your spares in your gear!

Now, what if you don't want to keep changing the batteries? There are many very good rechargeable flashlights that range from \$10 Amazon specials to your super high end units from companies like Streamlight. What I have found to be very good for the cost is offered by Nightstick by Bayco. The model 560XL is a great light for the price. This unit will cost you about \$60, but compared to the over \$100 for other brands, it's a good value. Nightstick does offer some other models that are just as bright for less, but generally they will be a polymer (plastic) body. Much like the Maglite, when sticking to the name brand lights the accessories are easier to get ahold of.



What if \$40-\$60 isn't in your budget? Don't worry! As stated before with the advancements in LED technology you can get a flashlight that will still do most of the job, and do it without breaking your budget. Let's review the low cost segment in 2 categories: Store bought and On-Line. In regards to store bought, I have found the brand Lux-Pro (available at most places, but for sure at Lowes) to be very good for the price. You can get a flashlight with 320 lumens (this is a measure of how bright the light is) for about \$20 and one that is 480 lumens for about \$30. These flashlights run on standard batteries. With the access to the internet, your choices can explode quickly. With some of these extreme low cost units you have to be careful. For example, I have purchased 3 of the \$10 Amazon flashlights, with having 2 that work well and one that I have all but tossed in the trash since the switch is unreliable. That said, for \$10 the other 2 work very well and came with rechargeable batteries



What do you want to watch for? In the world of flashlights, there are models that run on special batteries that can be costly. Be cautious when purchasing a model that requires CR123 batteries as the costs to keep the light running can get high.

See the good deal available from Home Depot to the right.

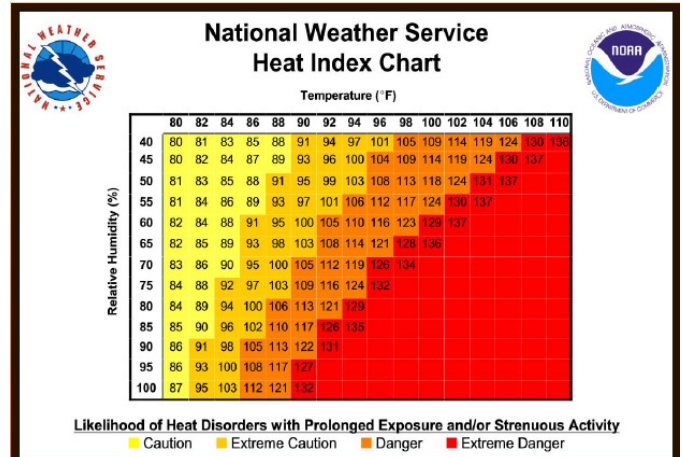
Warren CERT does not endorse any products. just showing you stuff we bought!



HEAT AWARENESS

Extreme Heat is Deadly!

- > Michigan averages about 5 heat related deaths a year.
- > Most heat related deaths are adults over the age of 40 and the deaths occur in their homes.
- > Every location in Michigan has experienced 100 degree heat sometime in the past.
- > Metro Detroit experiences about twelve 90+ degree days per year.
- > Southern Lower Michigan experiences seven to twelve 90+ degrees days per year.
- > Northern Lower Michigan and the Upper Peninsula experiences about five 90+ degree days per year.
- > Warm nights with temperatures above 70° hinders the body's ability to cool. This creates even more heat stress the following day.



The National Weather Service issues Watches, Advisories & Warnings when needed.
Make sure you receive, understand and follow these notifications.
If you don't already have a weather radio make sure you get one so you can monitor for Heat and all other weather related Events.

Use the H.E.A.T actions to prevent Heat Disorders

H - Hydrate, **E** - Educate, **A** - Act Quickly, **T** - Take it Easy

Be familiar with the different types of Heat Illness's

- Sunburn
- Heat Cramps
- Heat Exhaustion
- Heat Stroke

Don't forget to check the Backseat!

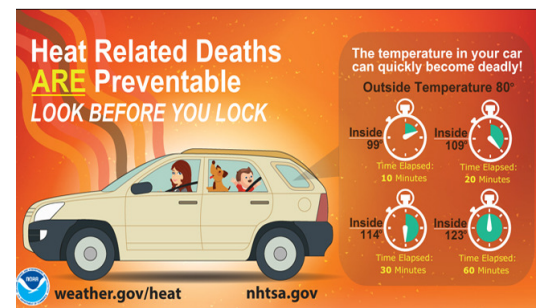
Children and Pets can experience problems on days where the temperature is in the 70's.

Never Leave Children or Pets in your vehicle!!

Studies have shown that "cracking the windows" provides little (if any) relief.

For more information visit our Facebook page at facebook.com/wrncert
or the National Weather Service at NOAA.gov

See our PSA at <https://vimeo.com/168243983>



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GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS DATES

June 4th

August 6th

October 1st

November - First-Aid/CPR/AED Training **Required Class—All Members**

December 3rd

Meetings will be held at Warren Community Center on Arden and are from 09:00 to 13:00 unless otherwise indicated.

IMPORTANT INFO

The CERT calendar is available online. You can view in Google Calendar or link to your local calendar program. If interested in having access to the calendar you must have a Google account. Send an email to calendar@warrencert.org and a link will be sent to you to access the calendar.

Final call for Flint Water Drive.... Final shipment will be transported to Flint in the next few weeks.

Warren CERT members cannot self-deploy. If you choose to assist at an active scene you are doing so as civilian.

Have an idea or suggestion to add to future eLetters? Send an email to eletter@warrencert.org

On behalf of the Executive Board - Thank You to all of our members for all you do!

From the director—Thank You Executive Board for making this team work and all the hours spent in doing so!!

Texcom.com - Our primary notification system. Make sure you are setup for SMS text messages.

In this digital world we sometimes forget how vulnerable we are online. Remember you MUST back-up all your devices and files. The best answer is to have multiple backups; cloud based and physical USB/ Portable drives you have under lock and key. See next months eLetter for information.

Know someone that would like to receive this eLetter? Have them email subscribe@warrencert.org

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