



# Warren CERT eNews



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

Volume 5 Issue 8

August 2019

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 as well as further your capabilities in a disaster or emergency situation. - *Michael Riley*

## IN THIS EDITION

- Radio Discipline
- Gardening Tips - Winter Garden in Michigan?!?
- The month in review
- Scheduled Events & Training
- Calling 911
- Do1Thing
- Cool Products Page

## RADIO DISCIPLINE

Too much radio chatter can be a deterrent to communications. Unnecessary radio communications block necessary communications from getting through. Remember only one person can ever talk at one time. Also remember the volumes of information being transmitted is also important. Only say what you need to say and shut up. More detail can be communicated face to face or on a different channel (if possible).

When you are trying to contact a specific person your transmission should start with who you are trying to contact followed by your own name. Think *“Hey you, it’s me”* On a CERT radio you would say “John Smith, this is Sally Jones” on a ham you might use call signs “kd8xyz this is kd8abc”

Talk across the radio not straight into the speaker of the radio. Turn the radio or mic sideways before talking. If you talk straight into the mic your can sound very distorted and hard to understand.

Don’t panic people. Sometimes it is better to call leadership to your location to discuss a situation. A radio message can be misinterpreted by others listening on the channel. We do not want to make city officials or police officers jump into high alert because some kid has a cap gun and all they heard you say is gun. Instead ask the person to join you immediately at your location.

Say only what is necessary otherwise shut up. Radio transmissions have 2 categories. Urgent, and necessary. If it is not one of these it should not be said.

Urgent messages should start with URGENT followed by who the message is for.

Necessary messages should be stated as above *“Hey you, it’s me”* We often use location to identify who we are. Example “Command this is Civic Center and Vandyke” or “Mike Rose this is Olive Garden” and wait for a reply.

Unnecessary radio traffic will NOT be transmitted over the radio. Instead, it will be stated face-to-face, by personal text message or not at all.

Many members are earning their ham radio license which is a great benefit to Warren CERT. In doing so we learn how to properly use a radio. Having your license allows smaller light weight radios more channels to choose from and considerably better communications for the team. Talk to the board about getting licensed today.

## GARDENING TIPS - WINTER GARDEN IN MICHIGAN?!?

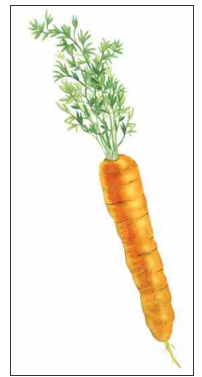
From: Mother Earths News, Original guide to living wisely

### Winter Gardening Tips: Best Winter Crops

*When we think of eating homegrown food during the cold season, we often think of staples such as potatoes squirreled away in the root cellar, or of vegetables such as winter squash stashed in a cool, dry place. But many gardeners are discovering the joys of harvesting fresh produce all winter long, which allows for feasts of cold-hardy crops that are just-picked and just right for the time of year. According to Jodi Lew-Smith of High Mowing Seeds in Wolcott, Vt., the seed-buying season used to be January, February and March. "Now there's also a surge in June, July, August and into September for fall-planted crops," she says. Eating from the garden is just too pleasant to give up simply because the temperature — and the snow — may have fallen.*

*I don't mean growing tomatoes in January. Fruiting crops no doubt need long, sunny days and warm conditions to complete their delicious arc of softening, deepening in color and perfectly ripening. Winter fare is about leaves, stems and roots, which mature more and more slowly as the weather cools and the days shorten. Better still, winter vegetables sweeten with the cold. If you've ever tasted a winter-pulled carrot or winter-cut spinach, you're familiar with the treasures winter gardening can bring.*

*At any latitude in the United States, there's enough daylight to grow a wide range of winter crops. A recent MOTHER EARTH NEWS survey on winter gardening turned up a surprising number of cold-season gardeners in places where weather would present a challenge, such as Ontario and Wisconsin, as well as many in unsurprising locales, such as Texas and Southern California, where an outdoor garden can keep on truckin' with a simple shift of the planting scheme (see [Real-World Gardening](#)*

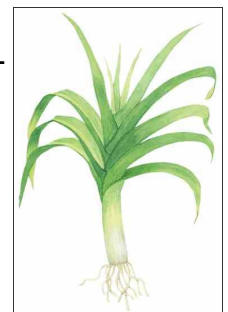


*[Tips](#) for tons of advice from our survey-takers). While in the Northeast we think of the year's "second spring" starting around August, warmer southern areas can shift that date by a couple of months to around October, when fall temperatures will still be high enough to achieve germination and allow plants to reach maturity.*

*The above is a paraphrase from Mother Earths News. More gardening, recycling and other information can be found on their site <https://www.motherearthnews.com>*

We do not often think of gardening in the winter in Michigan but if something were to happen and we were cut off from grocery stores we could still have some fresh vegetables through the winter. But it might not be a bad idea to try it out now as opposed to waiting until you need it. So to all you gardeners out there. Give it a try. Do a little research and see if maybe you can grow some carrots and spinach in the winter of 2020. Who knows you may enjoy it so much that you will have a permanent winter garden.

Good luck and happy growing!



## MAKE YOUR KIT!

### First Aid Kit

Consider taking a first aid class, through the American Red Cross.

Things you should have:

Two pairs of Latex, or other sterile gloves (if you are allergic to Latex).

Sterile dressings to stop bleeding.

Cleansing agent/soap and antibiotic towelettes to disinfect.

Antibiotic ointment to prevent infection.

Burn ointment to prevent infection.

Adhesive bandages in a variety of sizes.

Eye wash solution to flush the eyes or as general decontaminant.

Thermometer

Scissors

Tweezers

Tube of petroleum jelly or other lubricant

Aspirin or non-aspirin pain reliever

Anti-diarrhea medication

Antacid (for upset stomach)

Laxative

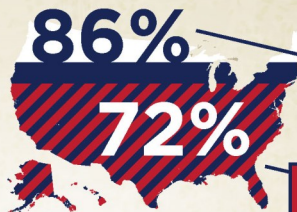
Cold medications

Vitamins

## Americans Need a Disaster Reality Check



More than half of all Americans fear they will experience a natural or manmade disaster.



Believe a **72 hour emergency kit** recommended by FEMA or the Red Cross would improve their chances of surviving a disaster.

Have made no effort to put together such a kit.

### BASIC EMERGENCY SUPPLY KIT



\*One gallon of water per person per day

# #1



**excuse given by Americans** for not owning an **emergency kit** is that they expect first responders to come to their aid. This is an **unrealistic belief** in the wake of a major disaster.

The Chapman University Survey of American Fears 2015



CHAPMAN UNIVERSITY  
ORANGE, CALIFORNIA

## THE MONTH IN REVIEW - CALL OUTS, DEPLOYMENTS, AND EVENTS

Aug 2, 2019	General membership Meeting
Aug 4, 2019	Exec Brd Meeting Make-up
Aug 8, 2019	WPD FSE
Aug 9, 2019	Accident Down Wires
Aug 10, 2019	Rock N Resources
Aug 13, 2019	Orientation
Aug 13, 2019	DQ Planning
Aug 17, 2019	Bangladesh Festival
Aug 18, 2019	Exec Brd Meeting
Aug 18, 2019	Bangladesh Festival
Aug 19, 2019	Down Wires
Aug 19, 2019	Training Committee Meeting
Aug 20, 2019	Leason's
Aug 23, 2019	DPW Staging
Aug 24, 2019	Boy Scouts
Aug 24, 2019	Birthday Bash Fireworks
Aug 27, 2019	Down Wires 1
Aug 27, 2019	Down Wires 2
Aug 27, 2019	Lights Out

**890.25 Total Volunteer Hours**

**474.25 - Call-Out / Events**

**170 - Meeting / Training Hours**

**246 - Executive Board / Administrative / Education**

**Although the IRS does not assign or allow volunteer hours a dollar amount many state and federal entities do assign a value to volunteer hours.**

**According to todays rate of \$24.69 the CERT team has performed**

**\$21,980.27**

**dollars of service to the residents and City of Warren this month.**

## UPCOMING EVENTS

Full details available at meetings, emails, and official CERT calendar

Sat Sep	14	08:00 - 11:00	Run Warren 5K Race
Mon Sep	16	20:45	Warren CERT Amateur Radio Net
Tue Sep	17	16:00 - 20:00	Leason's Fundraiser
Sat Sep	21	08:30 - 14:30	Animal Welfare Clinic <b>**CANCELLED**</b>
Tue Oct	1	19:00	Ham Radio Test Hazel Park Radio Club
Sat Oct	5	09:00 - 13:00	General Membership Meeting
Tue Oct	15	16:00 - 20:00	Leason's Fundraiser
Sat Oct	19	TBD	Trunk N Treat City Square
Mon Oct	21	20:45	Warren CERT Amateur Radio Net
Mon Nov	18	20:45	Warren CERT Amateur Radio Net
Tue Dec	3	19:00	Ham Radio Test Hazel Park Radio Club
Sat Dec	7	09:00 - 13:00	General Membership Meeting / Family Appreciation
Sat Dec	7	17:00 - 21:00	Tree Lightning
Mon Dec	16	20:45	Warren CERT Amateur Radio Net

Unless otherwise indicated meetings will be held at  
**Warren Community Center 5460 Arden Ave, Warren, MI 48092**

Watch the CERT Calendar for the latest location information and other training dates.

**[Make sure you follow Warren CERT on Facebook & Twitter](#)**

**<https://www.facebook.com/wrncert/>**

**[@WarrenCERT](#)**

**Want to assist the Warren CERT team at a higher level and get more involved?**

**We have an opening on the Executive Board.**

**We are looking for team dispatchers.**

**We are looking for data entry person.**

**If you are interested in any of these positions please submit a letter of interest or resume to [jobs@warrencert.org](mailto:jobs@warrencert.org).**

**Any questions please don't hesitate to ask us!**

## EXECUTIVE BOARD

<u>Title</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Phone</u>	<u>Email</u>	<u>Ham Call Sign</u>
Director	Michael Riley	586-943-6110	mriley@warrencert.org	kd8fmg
Dep. Director	Mike Rose II	586-855-1685	mrose@warrencert.org	ke8cih
Coordinator	Mike Slupinski	586-214-4704	deploytheyak@outlook.com	kd8vdz
Coordinator	JoAnn Christian	586-980-2055	kd8stz@yahoo.com	kd8stz
Coordinator	Sandra Jones	586-457-6159	sgjones586@gmail.com	
Coordinator	Ron Mesic	248-830-8450	rmesic@gmail.com	n8xz
Coordinator	Eric Bordeaux	586-242-4996	ericbordeaux@comcast.net	
Secretary	Angela Middleswart	586-219-4329	amiddleswart@warrencert.org	
Coordinator	Rex Marshall	586-933-3886	rexmarshall44@yahoo.com	

## PRESIDENT'S VOLUNTEER SERVICE AWARD

The President's Volunteer Service Award (PVSA) is the premier volunteer awards program, encouraging citizens to live a life of service through presidential gratitude and national recognition.

The President's Volunteer Service Award is an initiative of the Corporation for National and Community Service (CNCS) and is administered by Points of Light. Through a shared mission of inspiring more to answer the call to service, the President's Volunteer Service Award celebrates the impact we can all make in bettering our communities and our world.

As another level of recognition and acknowledgement for all the time volunteered by our members CERT has added the ability for members to qualify for the **President's Volunteer Service Award** or PVSA.

Please go to <https://www.presidentialserviceawards.gov/register-vo> and create your own account. Each person must create your own account! To associate your account to the Warren CERT team you must reference our **Record of Service Key WBU-4628**

**Every member should sign-up and start to log all your community service.** You can list any service; it does not have to be directly related to CERT. As you can see below there are references to many different types of service.

Any community volunteer work is allowed to be added for review. Any other groups or teams you volunteer can be submitted for consideration. For example RACES/ARES, Ducks Ltd., any city commissions, Red Cross, any non-compensated training you do or work you perform may be submitted.



# CALLING 911

## Calling 911 Installment #1

911 is the national emergency phone number to reach your local dispatch. This article will review what you need to have ready to provide to make sure the correct help is coming. First.....is this really an emergency?? No really, the types of calls to 911 range from lost cats to the drive through got their order wrong, or even things you might think are an emergency like a parking complaint.

So now to the actual call. Remain calm, don't yell or scream, and understand the dispatcher is trained to ask the correct questions to get you help.

WHERE ARE YOU? If the dispatcher doesn't know where you are and the line disconnects and they can't get back in touch, they don't know where to send someone to check out what is actually going on. This is why it's important to know where you are. For example, are you heading Eastbound or Westbound on 696? What road did you just pass under? Do you have a mile marker? Are you at a friend's house for a party, and do you know their address, or maybe you have to provide something along the lines of "on Wagner 1<sup>st</sup> block south of 10 mile, and someone will go out front to wave down help".

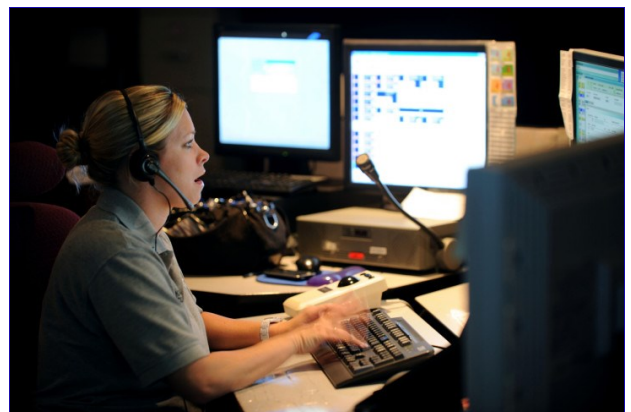
At all points during your call, listen to and follow the instructions of the dispatcher. If you have been in an accident, and they ask if you can pull off the road, please do so if you can.



You may think your "emergency" is the most important run at the time, but understand that many calls are coming in all the time, and the dispatcher will get you the help you need as quickly as possible.

Please follow our newsletter for further installments on this topic in the coming months.

[Read More Here](#)



## CERT POLICIES MEMBERS NEED TO KNOW

Warren CERT ID and Lanyard can ONLY be worn when activated as Warren CERT and must NOT be visible when stored in your vehicle. Do not keep lanyards in your cup holders, hanging from your rear view mirror, or other obvious place. You need to assure it does not get stolen or is used to misrepresent the team.

When deployed on Warren CERT events, logos and ID's from any other agency's cannot be worn. This includes, but is not limited to Badges (Security, Hospital, Work, etc.), Shirts or uniforms with logos of other agencies (Police, Sheriff, Fire, Ambulance, Security, even other CERT teams). Displaying multiple identifying marks causes confusion and can possibly place you in unwanted and dangerous circumstances.

Under no circumstances should you self-deploy!! IF YOU SELF-DEPLOY AND ARE INJURED YOU ARE ON YOUR OWN! IF YOU SELF-DEPLOY AND ARE INJURED YOU ARE NOT COVERED BY THE CITY! If you decide to offer assistance without being called out by during a city sanctioned event you are doing so as a civilian and assume all responsibility.

You are authorized to use your red warning light while on official CERT call-outs or events and when you are using it according to CERT guidelines. You must be stationary while it is in use. You are only authorized to use it while in the city of Warren. Your light should not be visible outside of the city

Warren CERT has a Chain of Command and every member is subject to follow it. If you ever have any questions or problems bring it to your executive board. No member will email or call a city official concerning a CERT topic without having gone thru the executive board or Emergency Manager.

Under no circumstances should any member attempt to approach or attempt to move any downed wire!

All safety policies and procedures must be followed at all times.

All members, at all times, must exhibit professionalism.

No smoking, indecent or lewd behavior or discussion will be tolerated.

**ANY VIOLATION OF THE ABOVE GUIDELINES COULD RESULT IN DISCIPLINARY ACTION, EXPULSION FROM THE CERT TEAM OR CRIMINAL CHARGES.**

## IMPORTANT INFO

**Remember to call 586-960-5315 and leave your name, time arrived, time departed, and what scene or event your calling about!**

**Please like our Facebook page [Facebook.com/wrncert](https://www.facebook.com/wrncert)**

**Don't forget to tell your friends and neighbors, about CERT.  
We're always looking for good people.**

**[Apply at warrencert.org](http://warrencert.org)**

**Make sure you continue to receive this eLetter and are signed up to the electronic version of the official CERT calendar.**

***[Check your texcom.com info to assure its current!](http://texcom.com)***

**A very special Thank You to Mike S. & Mike R. II for all their assistance in getting this edition of the newsletter finished!**

## Warren CERT Call-Out Procedures

Warren CERT uses Texcom.com as its primary dispatch and notification system.

All CERT members must be registered with Texcom with SMS (texting) and email. *An exception is allowed for members that do not use texting or email.*

When a call out request is received from an official source the on-duty CERT dispatcher will immediately relay the help request to the members via texcom using text messages and email.

Every message will contain specific details on how to contact dispatch and respond to requests.

### **Responding parties must respond as detailed in the message.**

A request may advise to **call** "Dispatcher Name" at 586-xxx-xxxx.

In this case as stated **call** the dispatcher and advise of availability and interest in responding.

A request may advise to **text** to "Dispatcher Name" at 586-xxx-xxxx.

In this case you must enter the number into your texting/messaging program and enter your response to the dispatcher.

**Do not reply to the message you received, it does not go to the dispatcher!**

**Do not call if the Texcom message states to text to respond!**

In all cases, include **your First and Last name** in the response.

The dispatcher will advise of any new updates to the call, information too large to type into the Texcom message, or of a sensitive nature that can't be openly distributed.

The dispatcher may also advise of a CERT Member in Charge (CIC) in charge of the call-out as well as names of other responding members and any preliminary instructions or recommended equipment.

All responding members must report directly to the CIC and follow their directions. With the exception of emergency first aid, members are not to begin response unless directed by Warren CERT. With the exception of emergency conditions members are not to leave the response without checking out with the CIC.

New members will also be advised that they are not to perform any action until the CIC arrives, new members must wait on the side lines, in safe location until given instructions by the CIC or dispatcher.

**No member will respond to a call until they have checked in with dispatch!**

In all references in the above to dispatcher it refers to the CERT dispatcher, under normal circumstances no contact will be made directly to Warren PD 911 dispatch!

Should a situation or problem develop on a call-out notify CIC immediately. If an emergency develops and CIC is unresponsive or incapacitated notify then notify Warren PD dispatch

Check and update your [texcom.com](http://texcom.com) information occasionally. Phone numbers and email addresses do change.

# do 1 thing

Being prepared for disasters and emergencies can seem like a big job. Many people don't know where to start, so they never start at all. With Do 1 Thing you can take small steps that make a big difference in an emergency.

Do 1 Thing is a 12-month program that makes it easy for you to prepare yourself, your family, and your community for emergencies or disasters.

Warren CERT is proud to be a partner with do 1 thing. Every month we will be showcasing some of the information from do 1 thing for Individuals and Business's.

## Individual:

### Get Involved

Goal for August: Make your community stronger by getting trained and getting involved.

It takes more than police, fire and EMS to respond to a disaster. It takes people who are committed to neighborhoods, churches, schools and volunteer organizations. When people are willing to work together for the good of others, communities are stronger

**Get Involved:** Connect with an isolated individual in your neighborhood or start a neighborhood organization.

**Get Involved:** Promote emergency preparedness in your community.

**Get Involved:** Become a volunteer in your community (CERT, Red Cross, Neighborhood Watch, etc.).

**Read More:** <https://do1thing.com/topics/involved>

## Business:

### Community

Goal for Step 8: understand and be prepared to manage the effects of an incident on your customers, suppliers, and outside operations in a disaster

Communities, individuals, and businesses can be affected by disaster in a number of ways. Immediate property damage and loss, disruption of services and supply chains, and loss of production time are immediate effects. Long-term effects include demographic and economic changes in the community, suppliers going out of business, and workers not returning to the disaster area

**Community:** Create a list of customers, suppliers and other operations which could be affected by an incident at your site.

**Community:** Analyze your customer base.

**Community:** Create a long-term diversification plan.

**Read More:** <https://do1thing.com/topics/biz-community>

Thank You to do1thing <http://do1thing.com/>

A Warren CERT Partner

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## Individual:

### Be Informed

**Goal for September:** Make sure everyone in your household can receive, understand, and act on information received in an emergency.

Getting correct information during an emergency is the key to taking safe action. Someone in your household may not be able to receive, understand, or act on emergency information. Think about what special needs your household may have. Take action now to make sure everyone in your family will be safe in an emergency.

**Be Informed:** Make sure everyone in your family knows what to do when they hear emergency warnings.

**Be Informed:** Get a NOAA Emergency Alert Radio.

**Be Informed:** Make sure everyone in your household can communicate in a disaster.

**Read More:** <https://do1thing.com/topics/informed>

## Business:

### Personal Preparedness

**Goal for Step 9:** Increase the resiliency of your business by encouraging personal preparedness for your employees their families.

Making sure employees and their families are prepared can keep them safe when disaster strikes. Employees who feel that their families are protected will be more likely to come to work during and immediately after an event. When an employee's house and belongings survive a disaster, they are more likely to stay in the community afterwards

**Personal Preparedness:** Encourage your employees and their families to participate in Do 1 Thing's personal preparedness program

**Personal Preparedness:** If you have employees or regular customers with disabilities, take steps to ensure that they will be safe and informed in an emergency.

**Personal Preparedness:** Train your employees to be ready for emergencies at work.

**Read More:** <https://do1thing.com/topics/personal>

Thank You to do1thing <http://do1thing.com/>

A Warren CERT Partner

## PRODUCTS PAGE

### LIFESTRAW

Award-winning LifeStraw water filter is a must-carry tool for hiking, camping, travel, and emergencies



Removes bacteria, parasites and microplastics

Durable and ultralight: weighs only 2 ounces (0.10 lbs)

Long-lasting: filters 1,000 gallons (4,000 liters), enough drinking water for an individual for over 5 years

Ultimate survival tool, no shelf life, easy to clean and store, used and tested all over the globe

This product gives back: One product, one school child, one year of clean water

#### How It Works

The original ultralight backpack and travel-friendly “straw” filter, the LifeStraw makes contaminated water safe to drink by removing bacteria and parasites, preventing the majority of waterborne disease. Use it to drink directly from streams and lakes, or fill up a container and use your LifeStraw to enjoy clean water on the go. The LifeStraw has unlimited shelf life and once opened can provide an individual with more than 5 years of safe drinking water.

- Filters up to 1000 liters of contaminated water without iodine, chlorine, or other chemicals; does not require batteries and has no moving parts
- Removes minimum 99.9999% of waterborne bacteria, 99.9% of waterborne protozoan parasites, and filters to 0.2 microns; surpasses EPA filter standards
- An alternative to iodine tablets and bulky purifiers, it weighs 2oz for ultralight portability, and has a high flow rate for drinking from the source
- Comes in a sealed bag, perfect for storing in a bugout bag or other prepper gear supply kit; measures 9 x 1 x 1 inches. BPA Free materials



The microbiological, hollow fiber membrane filters to 0.2 microns and removes:

- 99.999999% of bacteria (including E. coli)
- 99.999% of parasites (Giardia, Cryptosporidium, etc.)
- ◆ 99.999% of microplastics

This is not the only product of this type but it was the first so it is the one I chose to demonstrate on this page. The concept is good though, to have a small lightweight unit that if needed you could go to a stream or even a puddle and suck up good clean water.

This one can be found on Amazon for around \$18

[Lifestraw on Amazon](#)

[Personal Water Filters on Amazon](#)