



Warren CERT eNews



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

Volume 5 Issue 6

June 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

- 1,200 Tornadoes Each Year
- 9 Volt Battery Safety
- The month in review
- Scheduled Events & Training
- Warren CERT Stuff
- Do1Thing
- Cool Products Page

US TORNADOES

- > **Over 1,200 tornadoes strike American soil each year. That's four times as many twisters as the rest of the world combined.**
- > **The US has more tornadoes than anywhere else in the world because the Great Plains are home to Tornado Alley.**
- > **Winds from the Gulf of Mexico and the Rocky Mountains come together to create the perfect conditions for making twisters right in the middle of America.**

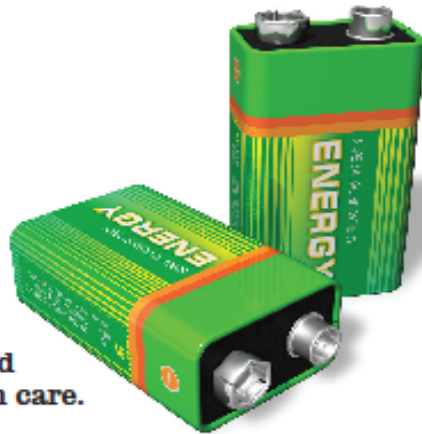
Each year, America gets around four times as many twisters as the rest of the world COMBINED. Taken altogether, countries outside the US see around 200-300 twisters annually. Compared to more than 1,200 that strike American soil. So, what makes the US so special?

To make a tornado, you need just the right mix of ingredients: Warm, humid air near the ground. Cold air higher up in the atmosphere. And wind that overlaps while moving at different speeds or directions. Believe it or not, few places on Earth check all of these boxes. And none compares to the Great Plains of the United States — AKA, tornado alley.

Largely thanks to The Gulf of Mexico. The Gulf of Mexico is actually the warmest body of water on earth at its latitude.

9-volt Battery Safety

9-volt batteries power our smoke alarms, household items and toys. They can be found in most homes. But these batteries can be a fire hazard if not stored safely or disposed of with care.



The problem

- » 9-volt batteries can be dangerous. The positive and negative posts are close together. If a metal object touches the two posts of a 9-volt battery, it can cause a short circuit. This can make enough heat to start a fire.
- » It is unsafe to store 9-volt batteries in a drawer near paper clips, coins, pens, or other batteries. Do not store common household items such as steel wool, aluminum foil, and keys near 9-volt batteries. If these items touch the two posts, there is a greater risk of a fire starting.
- » Weak batteries may have enough charge to cause a fire. Some fires have started in trash when 9-volt batteries were thrown away with other metal items.

Storing 9-volt batteries

- » Keep batteries in original packaging until you are ready to use them. If loose, keep the posts covered with masking, duct, or electrical tape. Prevent the posts from coming in contact with metal objects.
- » Keep them someplace safe where they won't be tossed around.
- » Store batteries standing up.
- » 9-volt batteries should not be stored loose in a drawer. Do not store them in containers with other batteries.

Disposal

- » 9-volt batteries should not be thrown away with trash. They can come in contact with other batteries or pieces of metal.
- » 9-volt batteries can be taken to a collection site for household hazardous waste.
- » To be safe, cover the positive and negative posts with masking, duct, or electrical tape before getting rid of batteries.
- » Some states do not allow any type of battery to be disposed of with trash. Check with your city or town for the best way to get rid of batteries.

9-VOLT BATTERY STORAGE

Keep batteries in original packaging until you are ready to use them. If loose, keep the posts covered with masking, duct, or electrical tape. Prevent the posts from coming in contact with metal objects.



Your Source for SAFETY Information

NFPA Public Education Division • 1 Batterymarch Park, Quincy, MA 02169

www.nfpa.org/education ©NFPA 2016

[Video - Dangers of 9-Volt Batteries](#)

US TORNADOES

When it comes to making tornadoes, the warmer the air, the better. As hot air rises off the Gulf, it crawls north across the Plains. Where it meets air blowing west out of the American Rockies.

When the two winds come together, they can create a vortex of wind that spins horizontally. Now, here's where that warm air is key. As it rises — as warm air likes to do — it tilts the tube vertical to form a rotating storm called a supercell. And up to 20% of supercells spawn tornadoes.

Now, you can find these conditions elsewhere in the world.

Anywhere where you can find warm water that's equator-ward of some area that also finds itself downwind of a major mountain chain, tornadoes tend to be an elevated risk.

Take Bangladesh, for example. There, warm, humid air spreads from the Bay of Bengal and travels north. Where it overlaps with winds blowing southeast out of the Himalayan Mountains. This produces an average of around six tornadoes each year.

Including the world's deadliest. Which killed 1,300 people and injured 12,000 more in 1989. But six tornadoes a year doesn't compare to the 12,000 or so we see in the US.

And tornadoes don't just strike the US during tornado season from March through June. In January, for example, we get about 36 tornadoes of them. That's because you can find those perfect tornado conditions year-round. And over a region several times the size of Bangladesh. That said, tornadoes in the US are probably not as common as you may think.

Most people greatly overestimate how often tornadoes occur in Tornado Alley.

I mean if you watch the movie Twister, it's easy to think that every day at 4 o'clock they sound the alarm and you just go underground, but really most people that live in Oklahoma have never seen a tornado before.

That's because even in Oklahoma, the tornado capital of the world, tornadoes only strike the same spot once every 1,200-1,500 years, on average. But if you are unlucky enough to spot one, be sure to keep your distance. Tornado winds can reach a whopping 250 miles per hour!

Plenty fast enough to sweep you, and everything else off the ground.

[Watch the complete video here](#)

[Michigan's Tornado Valley](#)

[Twister Outside Detroit \(2012\)](#)

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

May 6	Traffic Lights Out 11 & Dequindre
May 7	SkyWarn Spotter Training
May 11	Bike Patrol Meeting
May 14	Leason's Fundraiser
May 16	Traffic Light Maintenance 14/Ryan
May 19	Executive Board Meeting
May 16	Down Wires x 2 Timken/Peters/Lozier
May 23	Down Wires Jewett/MacArthur/Stevens, Maxwell/Memphis
May 23	Emergency First-Aid Class

336.25 Total Volunteer Hours

96.75 - Call-Out / Events

51.50 - Meeting / Training Hours

188 - 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

\$8,302.01

dollars of service to the residents and city of Warren this month.

UPCOMING EVENTS

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

Mon Jun	3	17:00 - 21:00	Warren Woods Tower Graduation
Sat Jun	8	09:30 - 11:00	Crusin53 Parade Rd Closure
Sat Jun	8	19:00 - 24:00	Centerline Fireworks Traffic
Tue Jun	11	07:00 - 15:00	BathTub FSE
Tue Jun	11	19:00 - 21:00	Amateur Radio Training (10 week class)
Tue Jun	18	16:00 - 20:00	Leason's Fundraiser
Thu Jul	4	18:00 - Close	Halmich Park Fireworks Watch
Sat Jul	20	09:00 - 13:00	Warren Shred Day
Sat Jul	27	12:00 - 22:00	Dairy Queen Safety Day Fundraiser
Sun Jul	21	12:00 - 16:00	Police & Fire Open House—Police Headquarters
Sat Aug	3	09:00 - 13:00	General Membership Meeting
Thu Aug	8	07:00 - 15:00	Warren PD FSE
Tue Aug	20	16:00 - 20:00	Leason's Fundraiser
Sat Aug	24	18:00 - 23:00	Birthday Bash Fireworks
Tue Sep	17	16:00 - 20:00	Leason's Fundraiser
Sat Sep	21	08:30 - 14:30	Animal Welfare Clinic *Tenative
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
Sat Dec	7	09:00 - 13:00	General Membership Meeting / Family Appreciation
Sat Dec	7	17:00 - 21:00	Tree Lighting

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](#)

**Do the math.... Deadly Injury > EMS Response = No Vital Signs
Get Trained!**



[Stop the Bleed](#)

HOW'S YOUR KIT?

Are you prepared?

Nearly half of U.S. adults do **NOT** have the resources and plans in place in the event of an emergency.

- Store a 3-day supply of water: one gallon per person, per day.
 - Store at least a 3-day supply of non perishable, easy to prepare food.
 - 44% of Americans do NOT have first aid kits.
 - 48% of Americans do NOT have emergency supplies.
 - 20% of Americans get emergency info from mobile apps. Keep a charger handy in an emergency.
 - 20% of Americans use social media for alerts and warnings.
 - Make sure to keep a charger handy in an emergency.
 - 52% of Americans do NOT have copies of crucial personal documents.
 - Don't forget your pets! You need a 3-day supply of food and water per pet.
- Prepare supplies for home, work, and vehicles. Emergencies can happen anywhere.

For more information visit: emergency.cdc.gov

! GET TO KNOW YOUR GO-BAG

A GO-BAG is a portable kit that contains the items one would require to survive for seventy-two hours, when evacuating from a disaster.

FIRST AID KIT	HYGIENE KIT	EMERGENCY TOOLS	ESCAPE KIT	DOCUMENTS & MONEY	FOOD & WATER KIT
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Adhesive Strips (50 pcs) ✓ Hypo-allergenic medical tape 1.25cm x 9.1m ✓ Conforming Bandage 5cm ✓ Triangular Bandage 110cm x 110cm ✓ Wound Dressing No. 15 ✓ Antiseptic Swab ✓ Tweezers metal 8cm ✓ Scissors ✓ Safety Pins - assorted (12 pcs) ✓ Resealable Plastic Bags (100mm x 180mm) ✓ Resealable Plastic Bags (150mm x 230mm) ✓ Disposable Gloves □ Personal Medication <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Anti-diarrheal • Antibiotics • Pain Relievers • Other Prescription Medicine 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Antibacterial Soap ✓ Toothbrush ✓ Toothpaste ✓ Comb ✓ Sanitary Napkin ✓ Alcohol ✓ Antibacterial Wet Napkins 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Portable AM/FM Radio ✓ Flashlight ✓ Whistle ✓ Glowstick ✓ Flasher ✓ Survival Knife ✓ Multipurpose Rope ✓ Waterproof Matches ✓ Thermal / Heating Blanket □ Extra Batteries 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Window Breaking Hammer ✓ Seatbelt Cutter ✓ Pry Bar ✓ Work Gloves ✓ Goggles ✓ Dust Mask 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Disaster Preparedness Guide ✓ Emergency Numbers □ Personal Belongings: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Extra Money • Valid IDs • Passport □ USB Thumb Drive containing the following scanned documents: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Birth Certificates • Marriage Certificates • Property Titles • Insurance • Medical Records / Prescriptions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Collapsible Water Container 1 gal (3 pcs) ✓ Disposable Plates (6 pcs) ✓ Disposable Utensils (6 sets) □ Non-Perishable food items such as: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Energy Bars / Crackers • Canned Goods



HARD HAT



WATERPROOF DRY BAG

WHAT'S YOUR GO-BAG?

	LIFELINE	URBAN	PANIC BAG
First Aid Kit	✓	✓	✓
Hygiene Kit	✓	✓	✓
Escape Kit	✓	✓	✓
Emergency Tools	✓	✓	✓
Documents & Money	✓	✓	✓
Food & Water Kit	✓	✓	✓

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	Ryan Prouse	248-259-1226	ryanprouse68@gmail.com	kd8ygv
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.



LED SAFETY FLARES

The executive board has made a large purchase of LED Flares and will be handing some out to the members who have worked the most traffic call-outs. We will also be selling some, at a reduced rate to all members.*

We will be selling the LED Flares to members for \$5.00 per unit. This is approx. one third off of regular retail.

The first order has arrived and these are 3 packs with a carrying bag. The cost will be \$15.00 per 3pack. No splitting of packs permitted. We have other flares coming that are individual and those will be sold one at a time.



* Sales will be based on participation priority! Other restrictions may apply. Subsequent orders will be over the next few months.

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)

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 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:

Unique Family Needs

Goal for June: Be aware of and prepare for your family's unique needs.

Every household is different. Is there an infant or young child in your home? Does someone in your family have a medical condition that requires medication? Do you have a pet? Before disaster strikes, talk to your family about your household's unique needs. Make a list of special items you may need in a disaster.

Unique Family Needs: Talk with family members to identify your household's unique needs.

Unique Family Needs: Make a plan to make sure pets are taken care of in a disaster.

Unique Family Needs: If you or someone in your household has a disability, create an evacuation plan that works for them.

Read More: <https://do1thing.com/topics/family>

Business:

Key Personnel

Goal for Step 6: Identify your key personnel and make sure that at least one other person could step in and do their job in the event that they are not able to make it in

Whether you are a business with only a few employees or many employees, human capital is the heart of your business. Identifying the critical functions that your staff performs, and making sure that someone is available to do it, is a key part of surviving a disaster.

Key Personnel: Identify personnel who perform essential functions in your business.

Key Personnel: Create a succession plan.

Key Personnel: Cross-train employees in critical operation skills in case a key employee is unable to come to work

Read More: <https://do1thing.com/topics/personnel>

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

A Warren CERT Partner

PRODUCTS PAGE

At the membership meeting a while ago safe battery storage was discussed. As shown at the meeting here is a safe and functional means of storing your batteries.

The Storacell Battery Caddy solves the problem of how to conveniently store your batteries in a compact and easy to find holder. Originally designed for pilots, the Battery Caddy is also great for photography, camping, travel or home use. The Battery Caddy is durable and break resistant and the slim and lightweight design makes it portable. There are no sharp edges to catch on clothing or bags. Storacell's patented locking system snaps batteries into place; batteries snap into place and remove easily. When ready to use, simply push the battery out with your thumb. Keep fresh batteries separate from used batteries by turning them in opposite directions.



The Storacell Battery Caddy provides the best terminal protection at both ends. Batteries left rolling around in a drawer, bag or container have the potential to cause a fire. 9V batteries can be a hazard if the double terminal comes in contact with metal objects; an electrical spark can be created causing a fire. The Battery Caddy is great for a variety of uses including outdoor activities, photography bags, emergency kits, by emergency responders and for home organization.

Storacell Battery Caddy



See them on Amazon

This one is on sale at Amazon