**Volunteer Victims Needed for GT-CERT Drill**

A drill is going to be held for new GT-CERT members. We are looking for volunteers to act as victims for the drill. “Victims” will be moulaged with injuries and are encouraged to act the part. Water will be provided. The drill will take place

**July 27 at 455 14th Street**

Volunteers will need to be present from 2:00 pm (for moulage) - 6:00 pm

If you plan to attend please RSVP to Jason Kraft at jkraft3@gatech.edu as soon as possible. Please wear clothes that you can get dirty and sturdy shoes. Victims will have a good time and learn about GT-CERT, so please forward this information to others who may be interested.

**Ideas for CERT Bag Extras**

- **Turkey Baster:** handy for irrigating wounds when performing first aid. Keep in a plastic bag for cleanliness in your CERT bag. Remember to use clean water.

- **Styrofoam cups:** in addition to use for drinking, when shortened they may be used for an eye covering and covered with gauze to protect an eye injury.

- **Door stops:** essential for ensuring that doors remain unlocked and for providing light. Can be simply made from blocks of wood or purchased.

- **Popsicle sticks:** helpful for splinting fingers or other parts of the hand, very commonly injured in disasters. Inexpensive and take up very little space.

**DON’T FORGET:** Complete all forms on the [GT-CERT website](http://www.gatech.edu) and send them to Frank Stanley (GT mail code 0440) as soon as possible.

**HOT Weather Ahead**

The heat keeps increasing in Atlanta. There were recent deaths from heat related illness in Maryland and Tennessee. Stay hydrated and be aware of symptoms of heat exhaustion and heatstroke. Profuse sweating, redness of skin, nausea, and altered mental state can all be signs of serious problems. The Red Cross suggests keeping a close eye on children and elderly neighbors and relatives during periods of extreme heat. Check the [May Newsletter](http://www.gatech.edu) for a review of heat related illness.
People with Disabilities in Disasters

It is very important for responders to be aware of people with disabilities when performing evacuations or rescues. Various types of disabilities should be considered when planning for emergencies. First responders should also note the potential to encounter people with disabilities during disaster operations. People with mobility impairments may require more time or special equipment during evacuation. A responder should never separate a person from their wheelchair or other mobility device, except for in cases when the person’s life is in danger. In addition to being custom fit, wheelchairs and other devices are also a source of comfort. People who are blind or visually impaired, while very capable of moving around their homes and workplaces, may need assistance in navigating through disaster areas. Remember to ask permission before touching any disaster victim, even if it is only to guide them. Consider any service animal to be inseparable from the victim. People with hearing disabilities may need an alternate form of communication such as writing. Touch a victims arm lightly to get their attention, then use a pad to communicate. Responders should use patience with victims with disabilities to create the best solution for a disaster. More guidelines are available at Tips for First Responders.

Safety Around Swimming Pools

There have been several recent tragedies involving children who drowned in swimming pools. It is important to take measures to prepare yourself and to be aware of hazards around pools.

If you are using a commercial or public pool, ensure that there are lifeguards on staff. There should be enough lifeguards to monitor the number of people at the pool. Observe and follow the posted rules of the facility, and make sure that any children you may be with are aware of and follow the rules. Parents should monitor the behavior and safety of their own children at all times. Be observant of filtering systems. If you notice a problem or an unsafe practice, inform the lifeguards or a pool administrator. Report lifeguards that are not doing their duty to their superiors.

In residential pools, it is less likely that there will be a lifeguard on duty. It is important that all people at the pool, especially children, have an understanding of pool safety, or even better, have learned how to swim. Flotation aids can fail, leaving children stranded in deep water. There is no substitute for swimming classes. Fences and covers should be secure and lockable to prevent unsupervised people from entering the water. Check with the pool owner to ensure that there are safety devices available, such as throwing rings and poles. Also, drain covers should be safety compliant, something that can be determined by asking a pool service provider. You can help by attending training to perform CPR on both adults and children.

Pool visitors face other risks in addition to those from the water. Make sure that you use sunscreen, and that sunscreen is reapplied regularly, especially if water has washed it away. Dehydration is another often forgotten risk of swimming pools. Bring water and snacks, and take regular breaks from swimming.

Remember, someone who is drowning often cannot cry out or wave, as their body is committed to keeping their head above water and attempting to breathe. More information on identifying drowning is available here. Know how to respond and post emergency numbers near the phone if you have visitors in case of an emergency. Remember, if a child goes missing, check the pool first!

While many of the same ideas apply, follow the link for hazards associated with the beach. Find more on pools at poolsafely.gov.

If you have any suggestions or would like to submit anything for the newsletter, please send them to jkraft3@gatech.edu.
CERT Training Reminder

- Type A - ordinary solid materials
- Type B - flammable liquids
- Type C - electrical equipment
- Type D - combustible material
- Type K - kitchen fires

If you are putting out a fire with a fire extinguisher, make sure that extinguisher is approved for the type of fire that you are dealing with.

Always keep yourself between the fire and your exit route.

Let us know what you're doing! GT-CERT is always interested in community service opportunities!

E-mail jkraft3@gatech.edu

Important Links:

- www.police.gatech.edu
- www.alerts.gatech.edu
- www.facebook.com/GTEmergency
- www.facebook.com/GaTechPD
- www.facebook.com/GaTechCERT
- www.citizencorps.gov/cert/
- GT-CERT Website

The Georgia Tech Community Emergency Response team is a group of students, faculty and staff that can be called upon in the event of an emergency to act in a support role for the duration of emergency response. Our goal as CERT members is to help prepare ourselves and our community for emergency situations by volunteering in all aspects of emergency preparation, including learning first aid and light search and rescue to act as first responders, and the distribution of literature to inform others of how they can prepare themselves. Through continued training and preparation we can do the most good for the greatest number of people.

CERT in Action!

Also, a new national newsletter was recently released. Please take a look to see CERT development around the country.

National Newsletter