



## Central County Fire Department (CCFD) Community Emergency Response Team Online CERT Course – Study Guide UNIT 6 Fire Safety & Utilities

Attn: CCFD CERT Students – by now you should have completed your “Essential Documents.” Please complete the **Hold Harmless**, **DSW**, and, if appropriate, the **Parent Permission Form**. SAVE copies of all your forms, and items you earn (ie: your Merits) for your records. These will all be necessary for Skills Day.

You also should be taking your **IS-315.A** online class from FEMA. This is a requirement for graduation for our CERT Program.

### Unit 6 = 6.1 and 6.2 Fire and Utility Control Unit 6.1

#### P.A.S.S. Knowledge test

- Pull the Pin
- Aim at the base of the fire
- Squeeze the lever
- Sweep side to side
- Wet Standpipes – these hoses are not for CERT use
- Creative Resources
  - Closing doors
  - Bucket of water
  - Wet towel
  - Shovel and dirt
- Personal / Suppression safety
- Roles of CERT Volunteers
  - Extinguish small fires (1 extinguisher, fire the size of office trash can)

- Remove fuel sources
- Shut off utilities if necessary
- Assist with evacuations

- Priorities

- Rescuer Safety
- Use of buddy system
- Wear safety equipment
- Do greatest good for greatest number of survivors

**Fire Triangle – Knowledge check: Heat, Oxygen, Fuel**

- Classes of Fire

- A – ordinary combustibles
- B – flammable liquids
- C – energized electrical
- D – combustible metals
- K – kitchen

- CERT Size-up

- Gather Facts
- Assess Damage
- Consider Probabilities
- Assess Your Situation
- Establish Priorities
- Make Decisions
- Develop Plan of Action
- Take Action
- Evaluate Progress

- Types of extinguishers

- Water
- Dry chemical
- CO2
- Specialized
- Overhaul
  - Cool, soak, separate

**P.A.S.S. Knowledge test**

- Pull the Pin
- Aim at the base of the fire
- Squeeze the lever
- Sweep side to side

- Wet Standpipes – these hoses are not for CERT use
- Creative Resources
  - Closing doors
  - Bucket of water
  - Wet towel
  - Shovel and dirt
  
- Personal / Suppression safety

**Test:**

1. Number 1 priority: your safety
2. CERT roles: extinguish small fires, shutting off utilities, assist with evacuations, prevent additional fires.
3. 3 elements that must be present for a fire to exist: heat, fuel, oxygen
4. Class B – flammable liquids
5. P.A.S.S. – pull, aim, squeeze, sweep
6. Steps in size-up process – 9

**Fire Safety and Utility Control Unit 6.2**

- 6 steps to approach / suppress fire
  - Ready position
  - Person 1 says ready, person 2 repeats
  - Person 1 says going in, person 2 repeats
  - Advance towards fire and extinguish (hand on shoulder)
  - When exiting, person 1 says going out, person 2 repeats
  - Person 2 guides person 1. Person 1 faces fire

**CERT volunteers should NOT do Knowledge check**

- Fight large fires
- Get too close to the fire
- Fight the fire alone
- Enter smoke filled rooms
- Reducing Electrical hazards
- Electrical Emergencies
  - Know where the power shut offs are
  - Post shut off directions next to the utilities
  - Know the procedures for turning power back on
- Utilities
  - Shut off individual breakers, then main
  - Pull out individual fuses, then the main fuse
  - Shut off for gas valve is off – true

### **Circuit Breakers Knowledge check**

- Shut off individual breaker
- Shut off main breaker
- Natural Gas Hazards
  - Asphyxiant
  - Explosion
- Carbon Monoxide Emergencies
- Natural Gas shutoff
  
- Know how to shut off
  - If you hear gas escaping or smell gas or see the dials spinning
- Do not turn back on; licensed technician should be called

**Gas shut-off knowledge check** – picture shows the valve perpendicular to the pipe; it is in the “off” position

- Hazardous Materials – remember L.I.E.S.
  - Limit
  - Isolate
  - Eliminate
  - Separate
- Hazardous materials have at least one of these characteristics:
  - Corrosive
  - Explosive
  - Flammable gases or liquids
  - Non-flammable gases
  - Oxidizers
  - Radioactive
  
- Placards – 704 Diamond – is the same as a Stop sign for CERT members; help evacuation of persons; stay away if any numbers on the diamond are greater than 1
  - Blue – health (1-4)
  - Red – flammability (1-4)
  - Yellow – instability (1-4)
  - White – special hazards (1-4)
    - W with line through = reacts with water
    - OX – oxidizer
    - A - Acid
    - ALK - base
    - COR - corrosive
    - Radioactive symbol
- Globally Harmonizing System (means symbols are similar throughout the world)
- DOT placards (Department of Transportation)

- UN and NA Placards
- ERG – Emergency Response Guide

**Test:**

1. Tool for turning off gas to meter – non-sparking wrench
2. False – hazardous placard = STOP sign
3. True: CERT goal – greatest good for greatest number
4. Sequence for turning off power to a circuit breaker box: Individual then main breakers



This study guide provided by the  
San Mateo Consolidated Fire Department CERT Program.