



COLLETON COUNTY CERT

September 2018

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WELCOME NEW MEMBER

Colleton County Fire-Rescue (CCFR) welcomes Margaret Martin to our CERT. Ms. Martin is a retired registered nurse. She is an active volunteer with the State Guard, the American Red Cross, and DHEC; she is also a licensed Ham Radio operator.

HURRICANE FLORENCE

September is National Preparedness Month. What better way to test our preparedness month than with a hurricane! As Hurricane Florence approached the SC Coast, early forecasts predicted the storm making landfall on the Charleston, Colleton and/or Beaufort County coastlines. The Colleton Emergency Operations Center was opened on Friday September 7. Governor McMaster ordered an evacuation of the coast as the State Government prepared for a statewide event. The new shelter location at Colleton County High School was opened Monday to accept evacuees. The Shelter was staffed with Firefighter-Paramedics Tony Keen and Kevin Varnadoe, Sheriff's Deputies, National Guard Personnel, Red Cross, DSS, CERT Volunteers and Colleton School District employees. Staffers held a birthday party for a 3 year old boy whose special day fell during the evacuation and tried to make evacuees feel more comfortable with activities and music. Fire-Rescue's Emergency Management Division held bi-daily updates and conferences with local leaders and EOC Staffers, coordinating operations with the State EOC. Public Works provided several piles of sand and Firefighters staffed the piles, distributing over 6500 sandbags during the week. Hurricane Florence tracked north and away from southern SC by mid-week, shifting response to northern South Carolina and North Carolina. The slow moving, large Hurricane made land fall in North Carolina early Saturday morning, then tracked south through northern and central SC bringing flooding and wind damage throughout the state. Colleton County was spared from any major storm damage and has shifted into a support role for other agencies.





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EMERGENCY SUPPORT FUNCTIONS

Emergency Support Functions (ESFs) is the grouping of governmental and certain private sector capabilities into an organizational structure to provide support, resources, program implementation, and services that are most likely needed to save lives, protect property and the environment, restore essential services and critical infrastructure, and help victims and communities return to normal following domestic incidents.

ESF	VOLUNTEER RESOURCES - CERT				
1 - Transportation	Kenneth Bahrenburg	Sherman Gethers	Earlise Jamison	Richie Johnson	William Smith
2 - Communications	Britney Allen	Debra Day	Margaret Martin		
6 - Mass Care	Thelma Ackerman	Helen Bowers	Jessie Gooding	Vivian McFadden	Bobbie Wiggins
11 - Mass Feeding	Thelma Ackerman	Helen Bowers	Jessie Gooding	Vivian McFadden	Bobbie Wiggins
14 - Recovery / Mitigation	<i>All CERT</i>				
17 - Animal / Agriculture	Dana Cheney	Richard LaPresta	Jason Warren		
18 - Donated Goods / Volunteer	Alyssa Bodison	Sabrina Edwards	Margaret Martin	Kimberly Richardson	<i>All CERT as time passes</i>
EOC Support	Susan Alls	Chippie McLaughlin	Dorothy Shepherd		

KNOW THE SYMPTOMS OF CO POISONING

SOURCE: CONSUMER PRODUCT SAFETY COMMISSION

Carbon monoxide (CO) is a by-product of combustion. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), over 400 Americans die every year from accidental CO poisoning that is not caused by fires. There are more than 20,000 emergency room visits, and over 4,000 hospitalizations. Because carbon monoxide (CO) is odorless, colorless, and otherwise undetectable to the human senses, people may not know that they are being exposed. CO is found in fumes produced any time you burn fuel in cars or trucks, small engines, stoves, lanterns, grills, fireplaces, gas ranges, furnaces, or wood burning stoves.

The symptoms of CO poisoning are similar to the flu (but without the fever). They include:

- Headache
- Fatigue
- Shortness of breath
- Nausea
- Dizziness

- Mental confusion
- Vomiting
- Loss of muscular coordination
- Loss of consciousness
- Ultimately death

Here are a few tips for preventing CO poisoning:

- Never use a generator inside your home, basement, or garage
- When using a generator, use a battery-powered or battery backup CO detector in your home.
- Make sure your gas appliances are vented properly.
- Have your chimney checked or cleaned every year.
- Never patch a vent pipe with tape, gum, or something else.
- Never use a gas range or oven for heating.
- Never burn charcoal indoors. Burning charcoal – red, gray, black, or white – gives off CO.



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The S.C. Emergency Management Division recently unveiled the *SC Emergency Manager*, a smartphone app designed for users to build their own emergency plans, to keep track of supplies and to stay connected to loved ones. The tools section features a flashlight, locator whistle and the ability to report damage to emergency officials.

The *SC Emergency Manager* can function without the need of a data connection, mobile app is available in the Apple App Store (<https://itunes.apple.com/us/app/sc-emergency-manager/id1378105431?mt=8>) and on Google Play for Android (<https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=org.scemd.app>).

COLLETON COUNTY FIRE-RESCUE EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT DIVISION

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