



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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CONTACT: Steve Harris, Emergency Management Coordinator
424 S. Castell Ave.
New Braunfels, TX 78130
830.221.4270
sharris@nbtexas.org

Award Winning New Braunfels Community Emergency Response Team

New Braunfels, Texas —The New Braunfels Community Emergency Response Team (NBCERT) was busy in October, posting over 800 volunteer hours in one month. There were approximately 450.5 volunteer hours committed to the October 30th rain event out of the 809 total volunteer hours that were posted over the month of October.

NBCERT was activated on October 30th to conduct sheltering operations for over 200 shelter clients that were evacuated from the River Gardens intermediate care facility and for residents that live along River Road on the Guadalupe River.

The team was also activated to conduct damage assessments in New Braunfels. Five teams of three each were paired with a City of New Braunfels Building Inspector and most damage assessments were conducted on one day, with some individual assessments being picked up in days after the initial flooding.

On November 1st the Search and Rescue (SAR) Division of NBCERT was activated to assist with the Search and Recovery of a person that was a victim of the flooding in the Spring Branch area. The 16 SAR members are a new component of NBCERT and have been trained by the National Association of Search and Rescue (NASAR).

All the hard work of NBCERT for the 2014/2015 year was recognized on November 14th at the annual Alamo Area Council of Governments (AACOG) awards banquet. NBCERT had the CERT Member of the Year (Michael Webb) for the second year in a row, along with the Instructor of the Year (Jennifer Pfannstiel) and New Instructor (Jeff Cooper) of the Year. And, for the third time in four years, NBCERT was recognized the CERT Team of the Year.

AACOG is comprised of 13 county region, with multiple counties and some cities in that region having organized and trained CERT teams.

“If other citizens would like to be a part of this great and growing team and help their community, I encourage them to join us this Friday, November 20th thru Sunday, November 22nd for the next 20 hour CERT training,” said City of New Braunfels Emergency Management Coordinator Steve Harris. “Interested people should contact me at 830-221-4270 for more information about the training and NBCERT in general.”

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