



## For Immediate Release

### Atascadero CERT Offers Disaster Preparedness Class

Atascadero, CA - September 23, 2026. In the event of a major wildfire, earthquake, or wide spread flooding, emergency service personnel may not be able to reach everyone right away. A disaster could strike when parents are at work and children are at school or involved in social activities. Would your family know what to do?

The Atascadero Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) is offering the *CERT: Basic Training Course* which teaches you basic disaster response skills so you can safely help yourself and those around you. This 24-hour course is intended for family members age 18 and older. You will learn how to prepare for disasters, about the CERT organization, basic first aid, the psychology of disaster, how to extinguish small fires, how to search structures and rescue victims, about terrorism and hazardous materials, and how to protect your home against disasters. Individuals who have completed CERT training have responded to major flooding, tsunami watches, searches for missing persons, been involved in traffic and crowd management, emergency radio communications, wildfire fuel reduction programs, and disaster recovery efforts.

The class will be presented at the Colony Park Recreation Center, 5599 Traffic Way, in Atascadero, on Tuesday, October 6th, Thursday, October 8th, Tuesday, October 13th, and Thursday, October 15th, from 6:00 pm until 9:00 pm. On Saturday, October 17th, students will participate in a review and disaster scenario from 9:00 am until about 5:00 pm. Completion of all training sessions is required to receive the FEMA Certificate of Completion. The cost of this course per person (or family) is \$40 for Atascadero residents or \$42 for nonresidents.

To register online, go to [Atascadero.org](http://Atascadero.org). You can also register in person at the front desk of Colony Park Community Center, Monday through Friday, 9:00 am to 5:00 pm. If you have any questions, call 805 470-3360.

Take this course, and learn how to protect yourself, your family, assist your neighbors, and help your community when disaster strikes.

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