



NEW YORK CITY EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT COMMUNITY EMERGENCY RESPONSE TEAM

This weekly newsletter should provide you with helpful information that you can share and discuss with your community members.

[Click here to view as a webpage](#)

## Happy Ramadan!



Ramadan, the ninth month of the Islamic lunar calendar and a holy month in which Muslims fast, reflect, and pray, begins on March 22nd. Ramadan is commended as the month during which Muhammad received the initial revelations of what became the Quran, the blessed book for Muslims, from God. From March 22nd at sunset to April 21st at sunset, Muslims around the world will observe Ramadan in 2023.

All Muslims adhere to the five pillars of Islam, which are Sawm (fasting), Shahadah (declaration of faith), Salat (prayer), Zakat (charity), and the Hajj pilgrimage. A light meal known as "suhour" is allowed to be consumed just before dawn for those who participate in the fast. The end of the fast is symbolized by a prayer known as "Adhan" at sunset. During this time, worshippers typically consume dates with juice, milk, or water. Muslims do not consume food or drink, including water, during daylight hours. However, there are exceptions, such as when a person is pregnant, elderly, or ill. Those who are unable to fast may choose one of the aforementioned pillars or other forms of worship. During Ramadan, Muslims eat Iftar, a meal shared with family and friends, each day at sunset to break their fast. Eid al-Fitr is a three-day celebration that occurs at the conclusion of Ramadan. It includes special prayers, meals with friends and family, and the giving and receiving of gifts.

[To learn more about Ramadan and the supporting members of the community and beyond who celebrate, please see below:](#)

- Use the greetings such as "Ramadan Mubarak" or "Ramadan Kareem" to wish someone who observes Ramadan well.



MONDAY RADIO ROLL CALL

**Borough Channel:** CERT BX (Bronx)

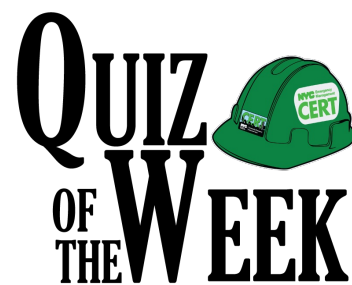
**03/28: Staten Island**

**Call Scenario:** Report out how many team members have completed FEMA IS-100.

Documents to Review:

[Citywide Radio Drill Refresher](#)

[Call signs per Radio](#)



**QUIZ OF THE WEEK IS BACK!**

Each week we will have a survey with questions that relates back to lessons learned during NYC CERT training or your experience as a member. The answer will be revealed in the following week's newsletter. Good Luck!

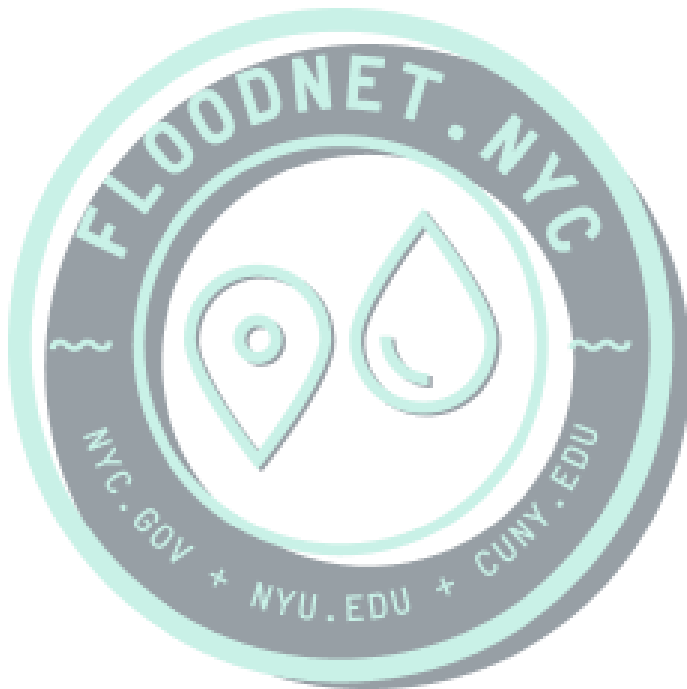
[CLICK HERE FOR THIS WEEK'S QUESTION](#)

- If you are eating or drinking in front of a colleague who is fasting during Ramadan, you do not need to apologize; however, if you are scheduled for a lunch or coffee meeting, you can inquire about whether special accommodations are required. Be conscious and try not to settle on pointless remarks about a partner's choice to quick.
- If you notice a coworker who is not fasting, you should wait for them to bring the subject up. Different people may choose to observe the holiday in different ways or may be affected by other factors that influence their decision to fast.

[VICE News: Fasting for 29 Days with a Muslim Family During Ramadan](#)

[Ramadan Information Sheet - Islamic Networks Group \(ING\)](#)

## FloodNet NYC wants to hear from you!

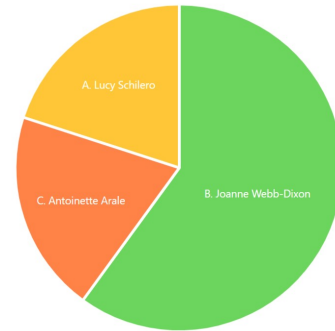


[FloodNet](#) is a partnership between NYU, CUNY, and NYC to install flood sensors in flood-prone areas of NYC. So far, the project has installed 31 sensors throughout NYC, and currently has funding to install 500 sensors in total over the next five years; some are to be placed in the near-term in locations such as Edgemere, Bushwick, Hollis, and eastern Staten Island.

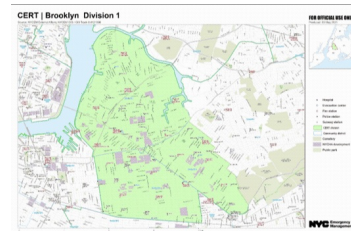
New York City government agencies, communities, researchers, and FloodNet are all working together to better comprehend the frequency, severity, and effects of flooding in the city. FloodNet unites imaginative wellsprings of data on road flooding influences in areas that are defenseless against elevated tides, storm flood, and stormwater spillover. The information acquired can be utilized by neighborhood inhabitants, scientists, city offices, and others to advocate around and attempt to lessen flood risk.

Community input is central to their location selection process, so if you know of locations that experience chronic street and sidewalk flooding, please submit a response using FloodNet's [Sensor Suggestion Form](#).

The correct answer to last week's question is: The correct answer is: **B) Joanne Webb-Dixon**. To refresh, this award recognizes teams that focus on building and expanding partnerships within its community.



The [NYC CERT Standard Operating Procedures \(SOPs\)](#) provides guidance and outlines policies and procedures for you and your team to follow.



NYC CERT Division maps are available (pdf format) to support recruitment and preparedness planning in your community.

[Brooklyn](#) - [Bronx](#) - [Manhattan](#) - [Queens](#) - [Staten Island](#)

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## CERT Cycle 43 Highlights!

The picture below is from our current Mon/Wed basic training class, showing participants as they practice the hands on portion of the NYC CERT Fire Safety training with support from our FDNY instructors.



FDNY instructors demonstrating safe cribbing techniques, as well as rescue tactics, to the current Tuesday/ Thursday class this past week.



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## Basic Training Disaster Simulation Support

**March 27th and 28th** from 6:30pm to 9:30pm, students from NYC CERT cycle 43 will be undergoing their first disaster simulation. Current volunteers can support as live victims to make the experience as realistic as possible to close out their 11 sessions of NYC CERT Basic Training!

To register for Monday the 27th, [click here](#).  
To register for Tuesday the 28th, [click here](#).



View the [NYC CERT Event Calendar](#) to see upcoming training, meetings, and planned deployments.

After you participate, be sure to [Submit Your Volunteer Hours!](#)

For more questions on how to submit your service hours you can view the [Hours Submission FAQs](#).

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## READY NEW YORK

If your division is hosting or participating in an upcoming event, please complete the [Event Request form](#) to have your opportunity published through Eventbrite.com for members to register.



Your NYC CERT Ready New York Liaison can submit a [Ready New York Material Request](#) for upcoming events.

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Get Notified with New York City's official source for information about emergency alerts and important city services.

Download the free [Notify NYC](#) mobile app, available for [iOS](#) and [Android](#).

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## Help US Celebrate 20 Years of NYC CERT



### ***Send us your CERT photos or videos!***

We have created a link for you to easily upload your collection of CERT related photos and videos from your time in the program.

You may upload several items per event/deployment, but only a maximum of three per submission. After submitting, there will be an option to submit three more!

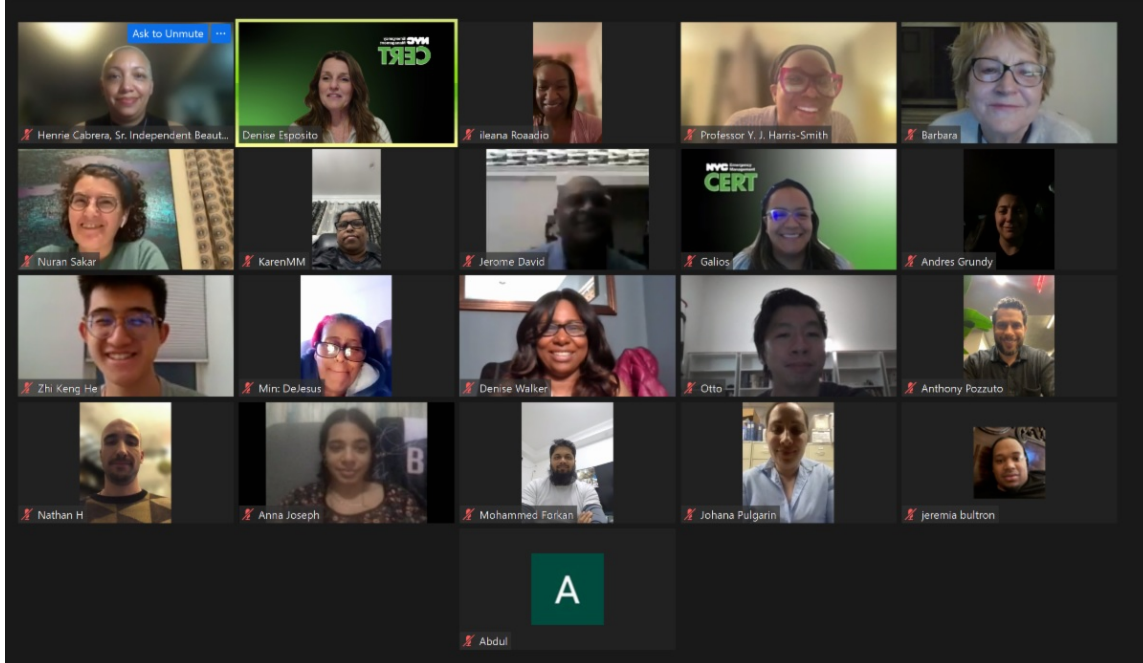
You can scan the accompanying QR code or use this link: [on.nyc.gov/CERTupload](https://on.nyc.gov/CERTupload)

Please label the files in the following manner: **Date (including year), Borough, Division (or team), Event, members included (if available).**

If you have any questions, please contact us at [cert@oem.nyc.gov](mailto:cert@oem.nyc.gov). Thank you!

## VOLUNTEER ACTIVITY

### CERT Orientation



A NYC CERT Orientation session was held on Thursday, March 23rd, to provide an overview of the program for recent applicants. Twenty five participants joined from around the city and shared their interest in training and assisting their communities. We hope to see many of these faces in the upcoming cycles this year!

## Bay Ridge Library Tabling



On March 23rd, Brooklyn Division 5 staffed a Ready New York table at the Bay Ridge Public Library for visitors from 2:00 pm to 5:00 pm. Ready New York preparedness material was distributed to visitors while NYC CERT members briefly explaining the importance of being prepared for any emergency and how their training can help.

## Monthly Meetings

### Brooklyn Division 5

Brooklyn Division 5 hosted a hybrid meeting this past Thursday to continue discussing plans for targeted community engagement, recruitment of new membership, and available training opportunities. Throughout the meeting, the newest members of the leadership cabinet were invited to participate in the planning and execution of upcoming planned events.



[Download NYC CERT Background](#) for use during CERT meetings and training in a virtual environment (e.g. Microsoft Teams, Zoom, etc.)

## VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

### Support the Five Boro Bike Tour



Bike New York is thrilled to announce that the TD Five Boro Bike Tour will once again welcome bike riders from across New York and around the country on Sunday, May 7, 2023.

NYC Emergency Management is working closely with Bike New York to plan NYC CERT's participation in the event. Check your emails for private registration links made specifically for NYC CERT members for each location of the tour. Registration links are also listed on the [NYC CERT Event Calendar](#). If you've already registered through the Five Boro Bike Tour website but plan to support as NYC CERT, you must re-register through the private links.

## Bay Ridge St. Patrick's Day Parade

The NYPD 68<sup>th</sup> precinct Office of Community Affairs is looking for twenty (20) CERT volunteers to support the St. Patrick's Day parade deployment taking place in Bay Ridge Brooklyn, NY on March 26, 2023.

Those volunteers who sign up will be assisting the NYPD 68th precinct with pedestrian and vehicle traffic control. At the request of Brooklyn Division 5 chief, this opportunity is open to all CERT members citywide.

[Bay Ridge St Patrick's Day Deployment | Sunday, March 26, 2023](#)



## Bringing CERT Into The 21st Century

Taking place on April 4th from 1pm -2:30pm, a webinar highlighting new technology and its potential applications for CERTs is being hosted by the FEMA Region 2 National Preparedness Division in collaboration with the State of California Office of Emergency Services (Cal OES) and the National CERT Association (NCA).

ICS4S leverages mobile technology with their patented design to enhance and transform emergency communications with a simple tap on a phone. It's more important than ever to be able to report, record and document information and share that information in a concise and effective way.

[Register here | Tuesday, April 4 | 1 PM - 2:30 PM](#)

## Good Friday Procession in Bensonhurst



The Good Friday Procession deployment will take place in Bensonhurst, Brooklyn, NY, from 6 p.m. to 10 p.m. on Thursday, July 23.

The Community Affairs Division from NYPD's 62nd Precinct is looking for 20 CERT volunteers to support the event. Volunteers who sign up will be managing pedestrians and vehicles traffic; this is an excellent chance to gain practical experience with a large deployment.

[To register please click here](#)

## NYC CERT CALENDAR



### Buddy Check

As we close out a long year of volunteering to support your community and head into a new year with new challenges, please take some time to support one another. The best way to do that is by performing buddy checks.

What is a buddy check?

Taking the time to check on family and friends, especially those unable to leave their home for any reason. You might be surprised by the impact you'll have on those who you connect with.

[Report your Volunteer Hours](#)

Search for *Buddy Check* Event



All Volunteer leadership should be encouraging active members to serve in a mentor role in order to support both their growth as leaders and provide new opportunities for newer members to become more engaged.

Complete the [NYC CERT Mentor Program form](#) to let us know if you'd like to be a mentor or mentee.

Complete the [Matching Questionnaire](#) to help pair the mentor to a mentee. Both forms must be filled out to participate in the program.

## TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES

### Emergency Operations Center & NYCEM Watch Command



On March 27th from 6:30pm - 9:30pm, NYCEM Watch Command staff invite you to NYCEM HQ to learn more about NYCEM's Emergency Operation Center & Watch Command. Topics that will be covered include:

- NYCEM 101
- Operations Division
- CERT Roles in the EOC
- Tour of the EOC

If you are interested in attending, [please click here.](#)

### Cultural Awareness Training

This April 24th at 6:30pm, a training will be held virtually with the goal of improving cultural competence and awareness in the workplace and on the job when interacting with the various communities we serve.

Through self-reflection, participants will challenge their biases and assumptions, learn vocabulary that is culturally appropriate, and develop innovative strategies for cross-cultural interactions, all of which can help reduce cultural misunderstandings and improve collaboration and trust.



[To register please click here.](#)

[NYC CERT online platform](#) includes online courses to support volunteer growth.

Schedule free training for your Division here : [FDNY Smart Fire Safety.](#)

[FEMA Region 2 \(R2\) Webinar Catalogue](#) includes all recorded webinars.

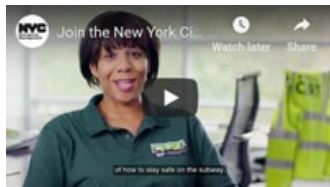
COVID-19 Community Conversations: Mental Health, Equity and Resilience

DOHMH is offering free virtual training to community groups. There are two options, a [1-hour informational virtual presentation](#) and a [3-hour interactive training](#) (available in English, Spanish, Cantonese, and Mandarin).

## THINGS TO KNOW

## CERT Credentials Ready for Pick-Up!

Just a reminder to coordinate with your leadership if your current CERT credential is expired. If you are a leadership member, please contact Denise Esposito to schedule a date/time to pick up your division's credentials, or to arrange for a member of your team to do the pick-up. Thank you!



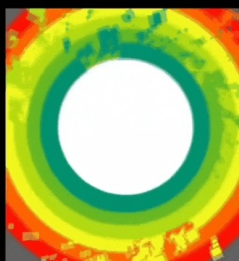
[NYCEM's YouTube page](#)  
[NYC CERT recruitment video](#)  
[2021 National Volunteer Week video](#)



[Resolve to Be Ready Calendar](#)  
Regular reminders in simple steps that can help you work preparedness into your busy schedule.



Listen to the NEW episodes of NYCEM's two podcasts, Prep Talk ([SoundCloud](#), [iTunes](#) & [Spreaker](#)) and ¡Prepárate! on [SoundCloud](#).



[KNOW YOUR ZONE](#) is your destination for everything you need to know about hurricanes in New York City.

You'll find information about the city's hurricane evacuation zones, the hazards you may face from a hurricane, and what to do to prepare.

## NYC Emergency Management



JOSEPH PUPELLO  
DIRECTOR  
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PROGRAM MANAGER  
TRAINING & EXERCISES



DENISE ESPOSITO  
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REGINA WILSON  
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GABRIÉN ZERVOS  
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OPERATIONS AND ENGAGEMENT



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