



Step-by-Step Guide to Starting Your Neighborhood Emergency Team

1. Identify your community, neighborhood, and fire station
 - a. Communities are made up of multiple neighborhoods (look for the blue neighborhood name signs as you drive toward your home)
 - b. Look up your address on <https://neighborhoodinfo.lacity.org/>
 - c. Join your <https://www.nextdoor.com> neighborhood
2. Introduce yourself and talk to your neighbors about disaster preparedness
 - a. Find location for and schedule RYLAN Class
 - b. Invite your neighbors (have them sign up at <http://join.ntp-la.com>)
 - c. Post on Nextdoor
3. Find location for CERT Staging Area
 - a. Should be out of the way but central to neighborhood
 - i. May need more than one location if Staging Area is too far from center
 - b. Not Fire Station and Schools go into lock down when students are present
 - i. Churches tend to be good options
 - c. Ideally in the parking lot behind the building
 - d. We want to host a 3' wide, 2' deep, 7' tall garden shed there
 - e. Property owner must agree to us using the location and training occasionally
4. Map out Damage Assessment Routes
 - a. Logical routes away from and back to the Staging Area that will cover most of the neighborhood (No more than 4 routes)
 - i. Cardinal directions (North, South, East, West) or following major streets
 - ii. Out all the way and zig zag back
 - b. We will create custom CERT Form-1s with the route pre-printed
5. Identify logical Public Gathering / Family Reunification Areas that people will naturally gravitate to.
6. Host Neighborhood Team Planning Meetings
 - a. Review 9-Steps Guide
 - b. Review Step-by-Step Guide to Staging and Initial Response
 - c. Review location of CERT Staging Area
 - d. Review damage assessment routes