

September 2004



COMMUNITY EMERGENCY RESPONSE TEAM

The Responder

WANTED: Citizen Corps Coordinator

Boca Raton Fire Rescue Services has been awarded a State of Florida Emergency Management Grant for the development of a Boca Raton Citizen Corps Council. At this time, an opening is available for a part-time, contract position, to become the Citizen Corps Coordinator. The Citizen Corps Coordinator will be responsible for fulfilling the goals and objectives outlined below. The salary is \$12,000 for the expected contract period of October 15, 2004 through September 30, 2005. The anticipated start date is October 15, 2004.

Interested? Please send resume to the following:

Boca Raton Fire Rescue Services
Attn: Lt. Cindy Metcalf
2333 W. Glades Road
Boca Raton, Florida, 33431

Mission of Citizen Corps in Boca Raton

Development of a safer, more disaster resistant community through the coordination and networking of first responder agencies under an umbrella organization known as Citizen Corps. Citizen Corps activities will be designed to recruit, refer, and help provide opportunities for educating and training citizen volunteers to prevent or mitigate disasters and to provide assistance when they do occur.

Primary Objectives of the Council

1. Match the needs of first responders with the skills and abilities of volunteers to make their families, their homes, and their communities safer from the threats of terrorism, crime and disasters.
2. Educate the public on safety, help citizens take an active role in protecting themselves from harm, and teach citizens what to do in the event of a crisis.
3. Spearhead efforts to offer citizens new and existing volunteer opportunities, educational information, and training courses to address crime, terrorism, and natural disaster risks.
4. Promote all Citizen Corps programs and activities across the community.
5. Capture innovative practices and report accomplishments that can be replicated in other communities nationally.
6. Survey the community to assess increased awareness and Citizen Corps participation.

Success Requires

Ability for member agencies to cooperate in order to attract, refer, and train volunteers in reactive and proactive behaviors that both reduce/prevent the impact of disasters and increase the level and speed of recovery activities where and when a disaster does occur in the community.

Prerequisites

1. Political and administrative support by community and agency leaders.
2. A commitment by participating agencies and organizations to the sharing of ideas and resources in the belief that this will lead to greater numbers of more effective volunteers for all member agencies.
3. Agreement on mission and objectives by the group.
4. Development and delivery of a successful recruitment campaign, using grant funds for start-up.
5. Development and adoption of a strategic plan of action.
6. Quarterly meetings to keep everyone up to date and on-track with goals and current status.

Congratulations C.E.R.T. Grads!

Class 2004-02



Class 2004-03



OSHA Issues Alert on the Dangers Associated with Cleanup and Recovery from Hurricanes

Submitted by: OSHA News Release dated August 13, 2004

WASHINGTON -- The U.S. Department of Labor's Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) today urged employers and workers to take appropriate safety measures to avoid injury and illnesses associated with the recovery and cleanup efforts following hurricanes.

The potential for fatal accidents involving electrocution from power lines, as well as serious injuries associated with tree trimming, have prompted the agency to remind employers, workers and the public to ensure that they observe appropriate safety and health precautions while performing cleanup and utility restoration operations. This includes coordinating with control centers responsible for power circuits so that workers do not enter areas where there are live wires.

"The hurricane season is now upon us," said OSHA Administrator John Henshaw, "and it's important to remember that even when the storm has past, the dangers are not-particularly for workers restoring power lines, cutting down tree limbs, and doing other cleanup and recovery work. This kind of work is hazardous and accidents can cost lives."

Information on avoiding hazards and safely cleaning up after a hurricane is available from OSHA to help workers who are involved in recovery and restoration efforts. Three fact sheets-Cleanup Hazards, Food Cleanup, and Fungi-are available on OSHA's web site at www.osha.gov. A Safety and Health Information Bulletin on mold safety and remediation is also available.

- [Cleanup Hazards](#) gives people involved in cleanup operations tips on avoiding injuries and health hazards, such as how to avoid electrical hazards and fires, and suggestions on clothing and personal protective equipments to wear while cleaning up.
- [Flood Cleanup](#) discusses the hazards contained in floodwater, how to protect against contamination or disease from exposure to floodwater, and what to do if symptoms of illness develop after exposure to floodwater.
- [Fungi](#) contains information on fungal diseases and conditions that can develop after floods, tips on protecting workers against exposure, and suggestions on what to do if symptoms develop after potential exposures.
- [Mold Safety and Health Information Bulletin \(SHIB\)](#) offers recommendations on how to prevent mold growth and how to protect workers involved in the prevention and cleanup of mold.

OSHA's role is to assure the safety and health of America's workers by setting and enforcing standards; providing training, outreach, and education; establishing partnerships; and encouraging continual improvement in workplace safety and health. For more information, visit www.osha.gov.

Costliest U.S. Hurricanes 1900-2000 (unadjusted)

The following table is derived from NOAA Technical Memorandum NWS TPC-1:

THE DEADLIEST, COSTLIEST, AND MOST INTENSE UNITED STATES HURRICANES FROM 1900 TO 2000

by : Jerry D. Jarrell(retired), Max Mayfield, and Edward N. Rappaport
NOAA/NWS/ Tropical Prediction Center - - Miami, Florida

Christopher W. Landsea
NOAA/AOML/Hurricane Research Division - - Miami, Florida

<http://www.aoml.noaa.gov/hrd/Landsea/deadly/index.html>

	Rank	Hurricane	Year	Category	Damage
1	Andrew	(SE FL, SE LA)	1992	5a	\$26,500,000,000
2	Hugo	(SC)	1989	4	\$7,000,000,000
3	Floyd	(Mid Atlantic & NE U.S.)	1999	2	\$4,500,000,000
4	Fran	(NC)	1996	3	\$4,200,000,000
5	Opal	(NW FL, AL)	1995	3	\$3,000,000,000
6	Georges	(FL Keys, MS, AL)	1998	2	\$2,310,000,000
7	Frederic	(AL, MS)	1979	3	\$2,300,000,000
8	Agnes	(FL, NE U.S.)	1972	1	\$2,100,000,000
9	Alicia	(N TX)	1983	3	\$2,000,000,000
10	Bob	(NC, NE U.S.)	1991	2	\$1,500,000,000
11	Juan	(LA)	1985	1	\$1,500,000,000
12	Camille	(MS, SE LA, VA)	1969	5	\$1,420,700,000
13	Betsy	(SE FL, SE LA)	1965	3	\$1,420,500,000
14	Elena	(MS, AL, NW FL)	1985	3	\$1,250,000,000
15	Gloria	(Eastern US)	1985	3b	\$900,000,000
16	Diane	(NE U.S.)	1955	1	\$831,700,000
17	Bonnie	(NC, VA)	1998	2	\$720,000,000
18	Erin	(NW FL)	1995	2	\$700,000,000
19	Allison	(N TX)	1989	TSc	\$500,000,000
19	Alberto	(NW FL, GA, AL)	1994	TSc	\$500,000,000
19	Frances	(TX)	1998	TSc	\$500,000,000
22	Eloise	(NW FL)	1975	3	\$490,000,000
23	Carol	(NE U.S.)	1954	3b	\$461,000,000
24	Celia	(S TX)	1970	3	\$453,000,000
25	Carla	(N & Central TX)	1961	4	\$408,000,000
26	Claudette	(N TX)	1979	TSc	\$400,000,000
26	Gordon	(S & Central FL, NC)	1994	TSc	\$400,000,000
28	Donna	(FL, Eastern U.S.)	1960	4	\$387,000,000
29	David	(FL, Eastern U.S.)	1979	2	\$320,000,000
30	Unnamed	(New England)	1938	3b	\$306,000,000

a Reclassified as Category 5 in 2002

b Moving more than 30 miles per hour

c Tropical Storm intensity

d Tropical Depression

Disasters and Radios

Submitted by: Fred Kleber

Hurricane Charley has not only peaked everyone's interest in CERT readiness, but also amateur radio's value in disaster communications. Just as networking is important in our personal and business lives, it is paramount in the disaster communications and relief efforts. Why amateur radio? It's simple, easy to install, and IT WORKS.

Charley Update: While you think the need for amateur communication may have subsided in the aftermath of Charley, read the following excerpt from FEMA Disaster Medical Assistance Team communicator, (also a ham)

"It is now Wednesday (8/18) morning at 2:30am and I am working the night shift. The RACES system is still our only way to communicate with EOC. We are requesting EMS transport on a regular (hour to half-hour) basis. We have treated about 350 people over the past 4 days and many of them require transport to the ER. 100% of those transports were arranged through the RACES Net. EOC and the shelters are not always staffed through the night because of a shortage of hams. These guys (and gals) are working their butts off to provide the only Comms there are for shelters, DMAT's, National Guard and the like. I monitor four radios and a Sat phone. It was so busy today that RACES sent me an amateur to handle one of those Ham frequencies. How nice to have a little help!

As I am writing this I am listening to EOC calling one of the shelters and getting no answer. Wanna know why? Probably because the Ham that is manning that station has fallen asleep because (s)he has been working gobs of hours with minimal sleep. They have now called 4 times; still no response.

Just some thoughts from a tired comms guy...

PS. That shelter has still not responded. Could you have helped?"

OK, so you've studied hard, passed your license and have purchased a radio. Now what? Just as with CERT readiness, practice makes perfect. OK, so how to practice? Best to learn in a non-emergency environment. Many public service communications opportunities abound. In the last year there have been parades, triathlons, walk-a-thons, bike-a-thons, fireworks displays, boat parades, etc. which provide great opportunities to learn.

Still not totally at ease? Let the organizers know and they'll be happy to pair you up with an "Elmer" (teacher). Everyone of us started in the same place and learned through mentoring. The amateur ranks pride themselves on the betterment of fellow amateurs.

Back to the networking theme. It's all about communication. NETworking. A weekly CERT / FAU NET is held every Wednesday at 7:00pm on the KC4GH VHF CERT repeater (146.255 MHz +600Hz, no tone). Check-in and say hello to your fellow amateurs. Learn about upcoming events and opportunities to better your communications skills. Try your hand at running the net! Great practice. Got the net thing down and want to expand your horizons? We have two active radio clubs in Boca Raton - Boca Raton Amateur Radio Association (BRARA) and FAU Amateur Radio Club. Each holds monthly meetings.

Most of you have read in THE RESPONDER about SKYWARN weather spotter training. It's that time of year where weather spotting plays a key role in aiding the National Weather Service and National Hurricane Center. There is no substitute for visual spotting, BUT only if the spotter is properly trained. Go ahead, take the plunge.

Want to get more into the emergency mode of communications? The Palm Beach County EOC works closely with the Amateur Radio Emergency Service, or ARES. ARES holds monthly meetings with one meeting per quarter being held at the Boca Raton EOC. As it's name implies, ARES is geared specifically with emergency services. ARES works closely with RACES, the Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Service.

[Ready to learn, help and enjoy? Tune into the CERT / K4FAU net or e-mail Fred Kleber. \(kleberf@bellsouth.net\)](#)

Hurricane Charley et. al.

“What Can I Do To Help”

Submitted by: Frank Correggio

As CERT members, we are asking ourselves that question even before the disaster happens. When Hurricane Charley made landfall most of us were gearing up to be available to lend a hand, if needed. Boca Raton Fire Rescue received emails and phone calls from team members and leaders asking, “What can we do?” and “Will we be sending a team?” Some team leaders asked if we could have a plan or policy in place to address these concerns should this happen again. The answer to this question is simple. Please let me explain.

We must remember that CERT is set up to be utilized when fire rescue services become inundated should a disaster strike. CERT teams will be activated by the City Manager, the Fire Chief or his designee. In the event that communication is down teams will self activate and are to report to their designated meeting point. When a disaster happens outside the confines of Boca Raton, we have no authority to send anyone to a disaster area. We, the City of Boca Raton, and the Fire Department must wait for a call for assistance and send the requested personnel.

We have been asked if our CERT Team could go, on their own, to help. As a concerned citizen you can go if you desire, but you are on your own and can not represent Boca Raton Fire Rescue CERT. From a Fire Department stand point it becomes a logistical nightmare if we decide to send you uninvited. The City and Fire Department must first think of the liability issues. Who will be responsible should you get injured? Who is going to provide transportation? Who is responsible for your lodging and meals? Where will you stay once you get there? These are all questions that sometimes, we as team members don't think about. Remember 9/11? There were so many people who arrived to help uninvited the rescue efforts were becoming compromised by having too many people in the area.

We understand that as CERT members you are trained to help. You are trained to act. And as concerned citizens you want to help in anyway you can. If CERT is not activated or called for, your training and expertise can be used to help in other ways. The American Red Cross can always use volunteers. They will provide training in helping with family services and mass care. This training will augment the CERT training you have already received. Sometimes we will not always be able to dig in and get our hands dirty. CERT members can help by organizing and gathering supplies that victims can use. You can help by raising money too.

There are many organizations that pitched in to help providing drop sites for items collected. The list changes daily. To find out where you can drop off items after a disaster you can check the local newspapers, or on line at www.disasterhelp.net or www.volunteerflorida.org or call 1-800-FL HELP-1 or The American Red Cross.

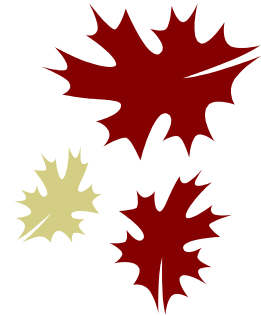
Thank you all for your dedication and commitment to our community, the department and the CERT Team. It is because of you that Boca Raton CERT continues to grow. And, it is because of you that we have the best program anywhere. Keep up the good work.

CERT Events

CERT Events

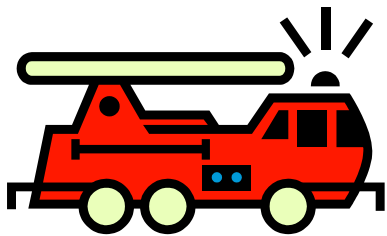
October 25

All Member Meeting
T-Rex Auditorium



October

Fire Department Open House
Date to be determined



December 2

Holiday Party with Hat Parade



December 8

Holiday Parade
Calling all HAMS



Congratulations, Joyce!

The Board of Directors of the Florida CERT Association would like to congratulate Joyce Brennan of Boca Raton CERT as winner of the "Name the Newsletter Contest."

The newsletter will now be called:
FL CERT Association LIFE-SAVER

We would also like to thank Juliette Shaheen, North Naples CERT and **Kenneth Howard, Boca Raton CERT**, for their entries.

Stay tuned for the next edition of the LIFE-SAVER.

Karen Truhon
Secretary
Florida CERT Association

Host families for Foreign Exchange Students!

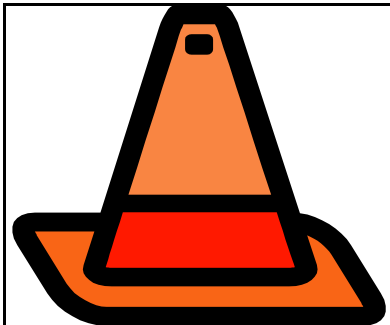
Hosting is a wonderful opportunity to share your culture with a student from another country while exposing your family to an international experience

Wanted :

without leaving home- - the world comes to you!
Your family will learn about other cultures and can build international friendship, hospitality and understanding.

If you are interested in participating, please contact fellow CERT member:

Marianne Guiliani
561-289-2176



**Under
Construction:**

**Team Leader
Corner
By Barbara
Kasser and All
Team
Leaders**

September



Howard Brown
Ronny Christopherson
Brieuc Corlay
Kathleen Ellerie
Neil Evangelista
Silvano Fattovich
Paul Forage
Sheri Galante
Anyull Garcia
Barry Goldman
Sandra Haradon
Phala Harper
Sergio Ivashevsky
Glenn "Jim" Jones
Jacqueline Kadish
Joseph Kottas
Susan Latuszynski
John Leahy
Rhonda Lesniak
Lisa Levene
Stephen Pekaar
Armando Perrone
Linda Prentice
Brenda Pryor
Robert A. Raymond
Michael Teller
Lisa Turocey
Jennifer Vandenberg
Brunella Vindigni
Joseph White

Continuing Education September 2004

There are two classes scheduled for CERT Continuing Ed for this month.

September 18, 2004 – Skywarn Advanced (Saturday 9am –12noon)

Jim Lushine from NOAA will be our guest speaker teaching the advanced Skywarn class. This class was originally scheduled for Saturday, August 28th. With the arrival of Hurricane Charley, Jim had to reschedule the classes. The beginner Skywarn class was held on August 28th instead of August 7th. **At the writing of this both classes are FULL.** Please check with me for possible availability. You must have taken the beginner class in order to register for the advanced.

September 23, 2004 – WMD / Terrorism (Tuesday 7-9Pm)

Firefighter/Paramedic Dan Coine will present a class about First responder awareness when responding to explosive and chemical weapons incidents.

Work In Progress -

We are working on radio policies and procedures. Ron Diego, Hank VanSant, Dennis Jordan, Clem Storch, Ross Evans and George Maxwell are looking over the draft.

Details will be on the way. Check with you team leader or give me a call for more information.

Question: If Charley hit our area would you have been ready? Do you have all your supplies? Evacuation route planed? Is your CERT team disaster plan ready to be put in place? Do you know where to go if CERT is activated? If you don't know the answers to these questions, call your team leader. Do it now. It could save your life.

Stay safe and stay prepared !

Frank



Zone 1 Meets

Submitted by: Clem Storch

CERT Team Disaster Rules

Date: July 5, 2004

Your team leader is Clem Storch

Phone # 392-4287

Radio Call Sign KG4MKC on 147.255 MHz

601 SW 5th Street Boca Raton, 33486

Cell Phone # 289-6378

e-mail: pcstorch@bellsouth.net

- Sources to for information: www.EmergencyEmail.org
www.srh.noaa.gov/mia
Channel 5, 12, 25
Radio WJNO 1250 AM
Ham Radio 162.550 MHz
- Protect yourself and your family.
- Protect your own property.
- Call team leader and advise of your availability for duty (before the storm by phone and FRS radio)
- Rendezvous place—see map
- **NEVER** attempt a job or task beyond your experience or abilities, stay in your comfort zone
- **ALWAYS** work in groups of TWO or more, NEVER EVER work alone.
- **ALWAYS** notify your Team Leader or someone where you are going and when you leave the area and move to a new area by phone and/or FRS radio.
- Team leaders **MUST** assign and know where members are going and what they will attempt to accomplish. Teams **MUST** report back to team leader for help status and results of task **BEFORE** moving to next task.

WHAT TO DO WHEN APPROACHING A SCENE

1. Think the BIG picture in route to incident, gather your thoughts
2. Call 911—Call for help
3. Announce yourself : “CERT - I am taking charge until help arrives. USE COMMON SENSE
4. Evaluate the scene : Is it safe? Do a 360 of scene.... Downed wires, tree limbs, building, debris
Is building safe to enter? Is there a fire or smell? Hazardous materials?
If you suspect, DO NOT ENTER, advise 911 and any other help coming
Wind strength and direction. Stay up wind.
5. Where are victims? Call for victims to come to sound of your voice

STOP, LOOK, LISTEN, THINK

6. Triage - Start with nearest victim and work out.
Airway, Breathing, Circulation, Mental condition (tag)
Respirations, Profusion, Mental status - RPM (tag)
Do all victims
Return to victims in order of immediate need
7. Assessment - Head to toe checking
8. Treatment
9. Document Everything
10. Pass everything to medical help upon their arrival - Await further instructions from qualified personnel

Royal Oak Hills Communications Plan

TEAM LEADER: Clem Storch 601 S W 5th Street, 392-4287 Cell 289-6378
 KG4MKC pcstorch@bellsouth.net

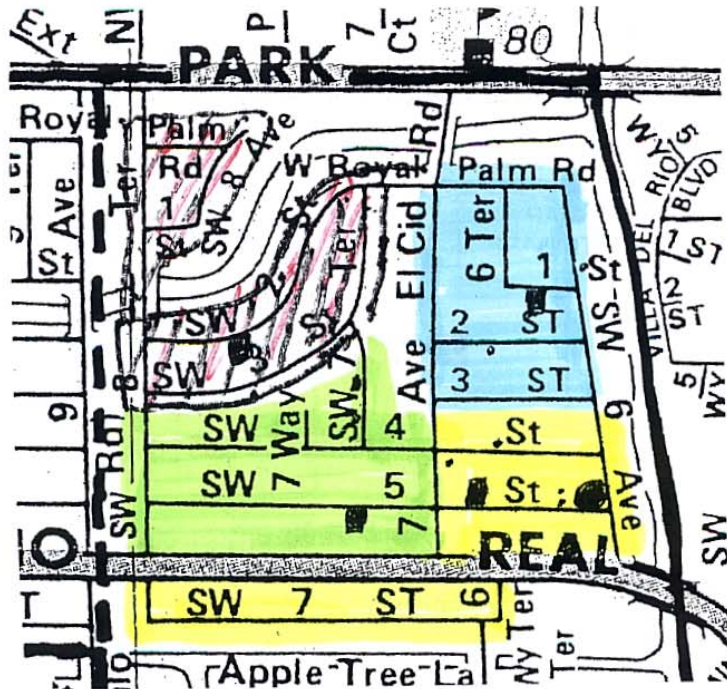
ROYAL OAK HILLS - Staging Area
 601 S W 5th Street

Jim Owirka 395-5148
 Cell 251-2345
 760 S W 5th Street
owirka@msn.com

Steve Fuster 368-5775
 Cell 239-2367
 632 S W 1st Street
sfuster@att.net

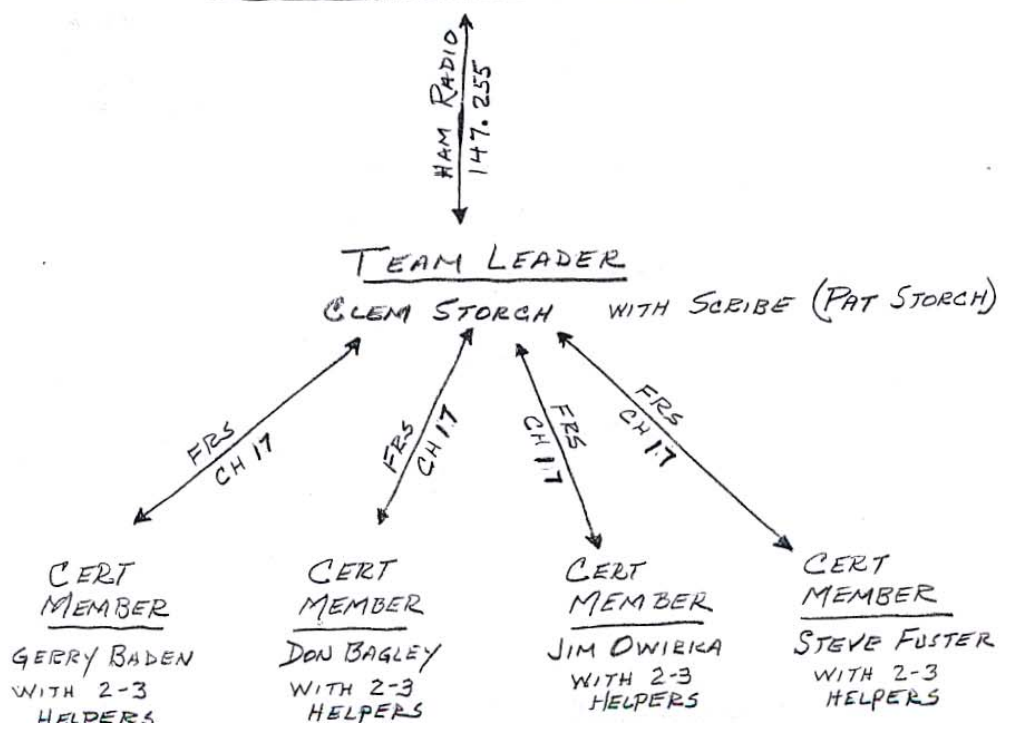
Don Bagley 338-3442
 826 S W 2nd Street
debagley@bellsouth.net

Gerry Baden 394-0740
 685 S W 5th Street
G_BADEN@yahoo.com



COMMUNICATION PLAN

EMERGENCY OPERATION CENTER (EOC)



Spread the Cheer... Volunteer!!

COMMUNITY EMERGENCY RESPONSE TEAM

Community Emergency Response Team

Amy Ross
Phone: 561-367-6768
Fax: 561-367-6750
Email: ARoss@ci.Boca-Raton.fl.us

Frank Correggio
Phone: 561-367-6764
Fax: 561-995-2103
Email: FCorreggio@ci.boca-raton.fl.us



Boca CERT Graduation Drill

September 22, 2004

5:30 pm to 9:00 pm

Victims and moulage artists wanted!!!!

If interested, please contact

Amy Ross at 367-6768 or

ARoss@ci.boca-raton.fl.us

City of Boca Raton
Fire-Rescue Services Department
2333 West Glades Road
Boca Raton, Florida 33431-7311

