LEALMAN CERT

Community Emergency Response Team

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HURRICANE CONFERENCE

May 1 - 2, 2009

St. Petersburg College, Seminole Campus
9200 113th Street North, Seminole, FL 33772

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Damage Assessment

Course Objectives

At the end of this course, participants will be able to:

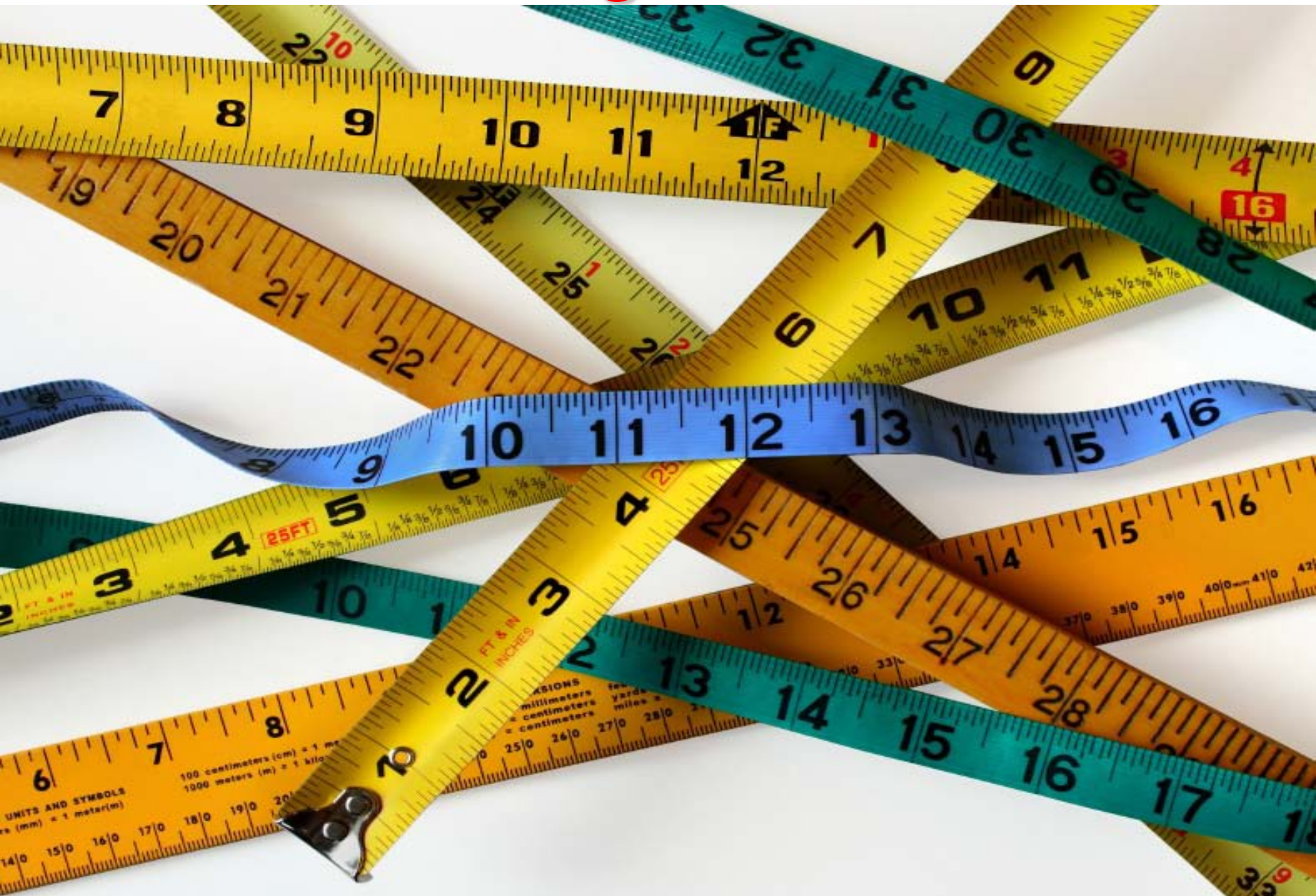
- ✓ **Describe the purpose of disaster assessment**
- ✓ **Recognize the need for disaster assessment teams (DATs)**
- ✓ **Develop Rapid Assessment plans and procedures.**

Course Objectives

- ✓ Determine what data is needed
- ✓ Determine how the data is obtained
- ✓ Identify the required forms and the process to complete them

Don't be afraid to give your best to what seemingly are small jobs. Every time you conquer one it makes you that much stronger. If you do the little jobs well, the big ones will tend to take care of themselves. – Dale Carnegie

Local Damage Assessment



Assessment is Accomplished in 3 Phases

1. **Rapid Assessment -** Takes place within hours after an incident and focuses on **lifesaving needs, imminent hazards, and critical lifelines.**
2. **Preliminary Damage Assessment (PDA)-** identifies and affixes a dollar amount to damages.
3. **Combined Verification -** includes a detailed inspection of damages to individual sites.

Why Do Damage Assessment?

Conducting a local damage assessment enables local officials to:

Determine the severity and magnitude of the event

Quantify homes and businesses impacted by the disaster

Determines whether local resources will be sufficient to effectively respond and recover from the event

Why do an assessment?

- Provides local departments and agencies with information
- Helps to make decisions on how to apply response resources
- Provides state agencies and volunteer organizations with information
- Media wants to know the impact and cost

Why do an assessment?

- Document hazard mitigation needs
- Measure the economic impact of a disaster
- Respond to media and congressional needs

Why is Rapid Needs Assessment Important?

- **Developing rapid assessment plans and procedures.**
- **Testing, evaluating, and finalizing the plan.**

Local Damage Assessment <u>Must Be</u> Rapid, Detailed and Accurate.

- It should be completed and submitted to the State within 36 hours of the event.
- The data collected will then be analyzed to determine if supplemental assistance will be needed from the State and/or Federal agencies.
- If necessary, the State will request a joint preliminary damage assessment with the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and/or the Small Business Administration (SBA).
- Delay in completing the assessment may delay supplemental disaster assistance to those most in need.

What's right about America is that although we have a mess of problems, we have great capacity - intellect and resources - to do something about them. – Henry Ford

How to Classify

- We must have a common way to call each classification
- Remember we are doing the first assessment to ID
  - What is wrong
  - Where the problems are (LOCATION)
  - How bad is it

There are 4 degrees of damage:

- Destroyed
- Major
- Minor
- Affected

WIND DAMAGE: SINGLE FAMILY DWELLING

Examples:

- Some shingle damage
- Few broken windows
- Cosmetic damage to siding
- Repairable

AFFECTED

WIND DAMAGE: SINGLE FAMILY DWELLING

Examples:

- One (1) wall damaged
- Section of roof missing or damaged
- Repairable

MINOR

WIND DAMAGE: SINGLE FAMILY DWELLING

Examples:

- Substantial structural damage to walls, roof, etc.
- Repairable

MAJOR

WIND DAMAGE: SINGLE FAMILY DWELLING

Examples:

- Total Loss
- Structure is compromised
- Not repairable

DESTROYED

WIND DAMAGE: MOBILE HOME

Examples:

- Minor dents to roof or siding

AFFECTED

WIND DAMAGE: MOBILE HOME

Examples:

- Utility connections broken
- Slight movement on piers/foundation

MINOR

WIND DAMAGE: MOBILE HOME

Examples:

- Wall and roof damage
- Shifted on piers/foundation

MAJOR

WIND DAMAGE: MOBILE HOME

Examples:

- Total Loss
- Bent Frame
- Buckled walls, roof

DESTROYED

FLOOD DAMAGE: SINGLE FAMILY DWELLING

Examples:

- Without basement: less than12 inches on 1st floor.
- With basement: less than 12 inches.
- No structure damage

AFFECTED

FLOOD DAMAGE: SINGLE FAMILY DWELLING

Examples:

- Without basement: 1-2 feet of water on 1st floor.
- With basement: 1-8 feet

MINOR

FLOOD DAMAGE: SINGLE FAMILY DWELLING

Examples:

- Without basement: 2-5 feet of water on 1st floor.
- With basement: over 8 feet
- Collapsed basement wall(s)

MAJOR

FLOOD DAMAGE: SINGLE FAMILY DWELLING

Examples:

- Over 5 feet of water on 1st floor
- Basement full and over 2 feet of water on 1st floor.

DESTROYED

FLOOD DAMAGE: MOBILE HOME

Examples:

- Water standing under or around mobile home, but not touching the bottom board.
- Indication of water being around a mobile home, but not touching the bottom board following a flash flood.

AFFECTED

FLOOD DAMAGE: MOBILE HOME

Examples:

- Utilities flooded
- Piers/foundation shifted
- Water touched or soaked at the bottom board, but did not enter the primary living area.

MINOR

FLOOD DAMAGE: MOBILE HOME

Examples:

- Water soaked bottom board and the primary living area.
- Piers/foundation washed out or away.

MAJOR

FLOOD DAMAGE: MOBILE HOME

Examples:

- Washed off piers/foundation
- Frame bent or twisted.
- Mobile home has turned over on its side/top.
- 4 feet + water above floor level.

DESTROYED

“Windshield Survey”

- Where appropriate, windshield surveys are used to expedite and verify the extent and impact of damage immediately following or during a disaster and collect damage information to determine disaster.

Do's

- Go outside your home or office and note what has happened. Then Report it to your City or County.
- Wait for **ACTIVATION** by your **City or County** before you Start any further Damage Assessment. Must be under Activation.
- Report to your City or County local conditions when called.

Do's

- Conduct visual inspection
- Look for waterline or debris lines to determine depth of water verify damages
- Focus on degrees of damages and habitability. Do not become preoccupied with property value
- Be sensitive when discussing damages with property owner
- Only report disaster-related damages.

Do's

- Look for the perimeter of the damager area, not the interior
- Survey as many streets as possible noting which one have any damage not detailed addresses
- Optimum grid layout
- NOTE: We observe, we do not FIX
- **Focus on your *<u>own</u>* safety first**

Don'ts

- Do not go into buildings
- Do not drive over or past downed power lines
- Do not drive in deep (1’ or more) or moving water
- **Give Aid** – Only Report ISSUES to higher Authority and move on with your assessment

“Windshield Survey”

- The State DOT and Federal or State agencies with responsibility for highways under their jurisdiction will have advance information on the **initial damage and road closures**.
- As part of the more general disaster assessment, Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) field engineers will be assigned to **verify extent and severity of damage to highways and bridges**.

“Windshield Survey”

- A Rapid Assessment Survey, also known as a **“Windshield Survey”** is a hash mark tally of impacted residential and business structures.
- Once the number of homes impacted in each of the previously mentioned damage categories is known, this information will determine the deployment of a Disaster Assessment team to gather detailed information about the structures and residents impacted.

“Windshield Survey”

- The first assessment conducted should focus on the people's needs..
- The primary focus is on the number of structures that sustained damage. The Teams evaluated extent of damage earmarks a structure in one of following levels of damage: **Destroyed, Major, Minor, Affected** but **Habitable, and Inaccessible**.

“Windshield Survey”

- The magnitude of a disaster (without necessarily delivering exact figures)
- The impact of a disaster on society
- People’s capacity to cope
- The most urgent relief needs and potential methods for delivery
- Priorities for action
- The utilization of resources for immediate response
- The need for detailed assessment of specific geographical areas or substantive sectors
- The level of continuing or emerging threats

“Windshield Survey”

The characteristics of a team are:

- Common interest
- Clear allocation of responsibilities among team members
- Complementary of tasks
- Shared commitment
- Inputs of all members are important to fulfill the task

“Windshield Survey”

Team members should be equipped with:

- Pen or pencils
- Official report forms
- A board or a file to write on
- Protection of papers from water and dirt
- Blank paper
- Maps of the area
- Food and water for the team
- Fuel supplies
- GPS
- Spare clothes and first aid supplies for longer missions

The expression a woman wears on her face is far more important than the clothes she wears on her back. – Dale Carnegie

Questions?