Instructor Guide to Unit Six:
Light Search and Rescue (SAR)

1. The **goal** of this unit is to provide participants information about three primary topics involved in Light Search and Rescue: safety, conducting interior and exterior searches and conducting rescue operations.

2. This is the **content** for Unit Six:
   
   a. Size up requirements
   b. Common search techniques
   c. Safe techniques for debris removal
   d. Safe techniques for survivor extrication
   e. Protecting rescuers

**Unit six is scheduled for two hours:**
Time spent on each unit can be maneuvered by dropping content and referring to its placement in the take-home materials. This permits flexibility on the part of the instructor and encourages participants to question or discuss course matters. It also holds the instructor to the time limit for the unit without expecting participants to stay overtime or to have instructors who follow to give up their time.

3. **Supplies** needed for Unit Six:
   
   a. LCD projector
   b. Computer linked to LCD projector
   c. Computer disk containing Unit Six power point presentation
   d. Instructor Guide for Unit Six
   e. Participant’s Manual for CERT
   f. Cribbing equipment
   g. Blankets and chairs or stretchers

4. **Instructional staffing requirements:**
   Two instructors are required for this unit. It is preferable to have a specialist who is trained search and rescue lead this unit (e.g. SAR team member, or firefighter). Team teaching is important for this unit.

5. **Creative Contributions**
   In the column to the right of each of the slides in this unit, there is space to take notes on teaching techniques that are fun, funky, and innovative. Use the classroom time in this train-the-trainer course to share ideas on how to reach people with different learning styles. Seal good ideas, generate some yourself, and utilize other’s ideas as a foundation to develop new training techniques that benefit all course participants!
Community Emergency Response Training
Unit 6: Light Search and Rescue

Unit Objectives

- Identify size-up requirements for potential search and rescue situations.
- Describe the most common techniques for search and rescue operations.
- Use safe techniques for debris removal and victim extrication.
- Describe ways to protect rescuers during search and rescue.

Search and Rescue Operations

- Size-up
- Search involves:
  - Locating victims
  - Documenting location
- Rescue involves procedures and methods to extricate victims
Decision To Attempt Rescue

- Risk involved to the rescuer
- Greatest good for greatest number of people

Goals of Search and Rescue

- Rescue greatest number in the shortest amount of time
- Rescue lightly trapped victims first

Effective Search and Rescue

- Effective search
- Rescuer safety
- Victims safety
CERT Search and Rescue Sizeup

1. Gather Facts
2. Assess Damage
3. Consider Probabilities
4. Assess Your Situation
5. Establish Priorities

6. Make Decisions
7. Develop Plans of Action
8. Take Action
9. Evaluate Progress

Step 1: Gather Facts

Consider the:
- Time of event and day of week.
- Type of structure.
- Construction type.
- Weather.
- Hazards.

Gather facts accurately!

Step 2: Assess and Communicate Damage

The CERT mission changes if:
- Damage is light.
- Damage is moderate.
- Damage is heavy.

Consider structure type and age.
Never enter a structure with heavy damage!
Search and Rescue sizeup
- Personnel
- Tools
- Equipment

Safety Considerations
- Make rescuer safety your primary concern.
- Use a buddy system.
- Be alert for hazards.
- Use safety equipment.
- Rotate teams.

Teamwork = Success

Conducting Search Operations
Inspect area by:
1. Employing search techniques based on size-up.
2. Locating potential victims.
Conducting Search Operations

Individual Voids

Effective Search Methodology

- Indicates rescuer location
- Prevents duplication of effort

Search Methods

1. Call out to victims.
2. Use systematic search pattern.
3. Stop frequently to listen.
4. Triangulate.
5. Mark searched areas to document results.
Conducting Search Operations

Conducting Rescue Operations

Primary Functions:
- Creating safe rescue environment
  - Lift objects out of the way.
  - Use tools to move objects.
  - Remove debris.
- Triaging or stabilizing victims
- Removing victims

Creating a Safe Environment

Goals:
- Maintain rescuer safety.
- Triage in lightly and moderately damaged buildings.
- Evacuate victims quickly from moderately damaged buildings-minimize injury.
Precautions to Minimize Risk

Safe Environment:
- Know your limitations
- Follow safety procedures.
- Remove debris by:
  - Leveraging.
  - Cribbing.

Removing Victims

Types of victim removal include:
- Self-removal or assist
- Lifts and drags

Extrication Method

Depends upon:
- General stability of immediate environment.
- Number of rescuers available.
- Strength and ability of rescuers.
- Condition of victim.
6. Announcements before the participants are dismissed:

   If your CERT class continues on the same day, take your break and return to this classroom.

   Or

   If your CERT class continues on another day (next week or next month) Your **Homework Assignment** is to read Unit Six: Search and Rescue.