

BEVERLY HILLS FIRE DEPARTMENT

COMMUNITY EMERGENCY RESPONSE TEAM ~ C.E.R.T ~

BEVERLY HILLS, October 23, 2021.

Dear CERT volunteers, Cybersecurity involves preventing, detecting, and responding to cyberattacks that can have wide-ranging effects on individuals, organizations, the community and at the national level.

Cyberattacks are malicious attempts to access or damage a computer or network system. Cyberattacks can lead to loss of money, theft of personal, financial, and medical information that can damage your reputation and safety. To know more about how you can prevent, protect and recover, visit: <https://www.ready.gov/cybersecurity>

*Save the date, November 17, 2021 at 6 pm we will be having an in-person CERT refresher at the Municipal Gallery, only 25 spots are available, adhering to County and local COVID-19 mandates and protocols. Please confirm at cert@beverlyhills.org subject line: **11refresher**.

Neighbors helping neighbors.





TOP TIPS TO SHARE DURING CYBERSECURITY AWARENESS MONTH

- **Double your login protection.** Enable multi-factor authentication (MFA) for all accounts and devices to ensure that the only person who has access to your account is you. Use it for email, banking, social media, and any other service that requires logging in. If MFA is an option, enable it by using a trusted mobile device, such as your smartphone, an authenticator app, or a secure token—a small physical device that can hook onto your key ring. Read the [Multi-Factor Authentication \(MFA\) How-to-Guide](#) for more information.
- **Shake up your password protocol.** According to National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) guidance, you should consider using the longest password or passphrase permissible. Get creative and customize your standard password for different sites, which can prevent cyber criminals from gaining access to these accounts and protect you in the event of a breach. Use password managers to generate and remember different, complex passwords for each of your accounts. Read the [Creating a Password Tip Sheet](#) for more information.
- **If you connect, you must protect.** Whether it's your computer, smartphone, game device, or other network devices, the best defense

against viruses and malware is to update to the latest security software, web browser, and operating systems. Sign up for automatic updates, if you can, and protect your devices with anti-virus software. Read the [Phishing Tip Sheet](#) for more information.

- **Play hard to get with strangers.** Cyber criminals use phishing tactics, hoping to fool their victims. If you're unsure who an email is from—even if the details appear accurate—or if the email looks ‘phishy,’ do not respond and do not click on any links or attachments found in that email. When available use the “report phish” or “report” option to help your organization or email provider block other suspicious emails before they arrive in your inbox.
- **Never click and tell.** Limit what information you post on social media—from personal addresses to where you like to grab coffee. What many people don't realize is that these seemingly random details are all criminals need to know to target you, your loved ones, and your physical belongings—online and in the real world. Keep Social Security numbers, account numbers, and passwords private, as well as specific information about yourself, such as your full name, address, birthday, and even vacation plans. Disable location services that allow anyone to see where you are—and where you aren't—at any given time. Read the [Social Media Cybersecurity Tip Sheet](#) for more information.
- **Keep tabs on your apps.** Most connected appliances, toys and devices are supported by a mobile application. Your mobile device could be filled with suspicious apps running in the background or using default permissions you never realized you approved—gathering your personal information without your knowledge while also putting your identity and privacy at risk. Check your app permissions and use the “rule of least privilege” to delete what you don't need or no longer use. Learn to just say “no” to privilege requests that don't make sense. Only download apps from trusted vendors and sources.
- **Stay protected while connected.** Before you connect to any public wireless hotspot—like at an airport, hotel, or café—be sure to confirm the name of the network and exact login procedures with appropriate staff to ensure that the network is legitimate. If you do use an unsecured public access point, practice good internet hygiene by avoiding sensitive activities (e.g., banking) that require passwords or credit cards. Your personal hotspot is often a safer alternative to free Wi-Fi. Only use sites that begin with “<https://>” when online shopping or banking.

CYBERSECURITY RESOURCES

Below are useful resources to use both during October and throughout the year. Explore these sites for content to use in blogs, articles, and messaging within your organizations and external audiences.

- The National Cyber Security Alliance (NCSA) builds strong public/private partnerships to create and implement broad-reaching education and awareness efforts to empower users at home, work and school with the information they need to keep themselves, their organizations, their systems and their sensitive information safe and secure online and encourage a culture of cybersecurity. For NCSA recommended events, click: <https://staysafeonline.org>
- Powered by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security, the “[Be Cyber Smart](#)” campaign is designed to inspire the younger generation of Americans to take responsibility for their own cyber safety. Learn about cybersecurity basics, common scams, and how to report cybersecurity incidents by visiting the campaign online.
- Looking for information about a particular cybersecurity position or course? [The National Initiative for Cybersecurity Careers and Studies](#) (NICCS) is a national resource for cybersecurity education, training and workforce development. NICCS features tools and information for current and future cybersecurity professionals, ranging from K-12 students and teachers to Federal employees to Veterans to Career Changers. These tools and resources are available for anyone seeking more information about the cybersecurity field, how to advance a cybersecurity career, and more.

Protect yourself and your
children on the internet

Cyber Security Awareness Month

 CREATE STRONG PASSWORDS.

Use passwords that are hard to guess, and keep track of it using a password manager.

 BE CAREFUL OF WHAT YOU DOWNLOAD.

Double check email attachments and any downloaded files that live on the internet.

 USE AN ANTI-VIRUS PROGRAM.

Keep your anti-virus software updated so it can detect potential threats in your system.

 EDUCATE YOUR KIDS.

Help your kids understand how to use the computer while practicing internet safety.

 TRUST YOUR INSTINCTS.

JUST IN CASE BH



JUSTINCASEBH@BEVERLYHILLS.ORG

WWW.JUSTINCASEBH.ORG

(310) 281-2754

Are you prepared for a major emergency or disaster? In a major disaster the Fire and Police Department may be delayed in their response. It may take up to 72 hours for a response for medical care depending on the severity of the event.

Is your family ready to handle any situation that you may face? Gas leak, small fire, major injury, structure collapse, are incidents you may experience in a disaster.

What if someone on your block was trained to help bring families and neighbors together in an emergency? Maybe you want to be that person...

JUST IN CASE BH is for you! This important city-wide program brings residents together before, during, and after an emergency.

JUST IN CASE BH helps to create a neighborhood of Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) trained neighbors, access to doctors, medical supplies, and a central location for supplies of food and water. The program will also supply Block Captains with a way of communication during power and internet outages

We need you to join this network of residents throughout our city who can support each other until Fire and Police are able to respond. Get involved!

For timely emergency and disaster information, please visit www.beverlyhills.org/disaster

To join the Beverly Hills Neighborhood Watch please visit [BHPD Neighborhood Watch Program](#)

WHAT'S MY ZONE? CLICK TO FIND OUT

The Just In Case BH program is offering emergency kits through [Beverly Hills CPR](#) Automated External Defibrillator, AED can be purchased for any home or facility. Stop The Bleed kits are available for purchase, as well CPR books.

CERT CALLOUT TEAM

HYDRATION UNIT, RED FLAG PATROL, DOWNED WIRE WATCH

The BHFD-CERT is actively looking for volunteers to join the **Callout Team** to have an active participation within the training acquired. Please sign up at cert@beverlyhills.org subject line: **COT**

Thank you to the CERT volunteers who already signed up!

If you have questions, comments or concerns about the CERT program, please contact us at cert@beverlyhills.org or visit the website at <http://www.beverlyhills.org/departments/firedepartment/cert/web.jsp>



[@BeverlyHillsFire](#)



[@beverlyhillsfd](#)



[@CityofBHFIRE](#)



[@JustincaseBH](#)



Beverly Hills Community Connect Find out more about Los Angeles County Community Connect, brought to you by the Beverly Hills Fire Department. Together, Building a Safer Community Through Prevention, Preparedness & Response.



Respectfully,

Gabriel Mier

C.E.R.T. Coordinator

Community Risk Reduction

City of Beverly Hills

Fire Department

445 N. Rexford Dr.

Beverly Hills, CA. 90210

C: 310-612-5762