

*CERT training helps the son of a friend:*

Just wanted to give a big shout of thanks to the CERT program once again.

The night of February 6, my son was driving home from a visit with friends. It was the night after the snow. The roads had been plowed but had frozen up again so he was driving cautiously. He came around a corner on Kelly Road and found that the road had not been plowed starting in the middle of the corner. There were no warning signs set up. He started to slow down even more when he saw a tree across the road that was about 4 feet off the road surface. He tried to brake, but it was too slick. He tried to steer for the ditch; too slick. So he let go of the steering wheel, locked up the brakes to slow as much as possible and threw himself sideways down onto the seat. The impact crushed the cab below the steering wheel. He rolled down the passenger side window and shut the truck off with the truck pinned under the tree.

During the slide toward the tree he noticed the high tension power lines, not the 7200 volt single strand stuff but the 125,000 multi strand lines tangled in the tree and lying on the ground as well. When he looked out the window and on the ground outside the window. those lines were now in contact with the truck and a couple of the 7200 volt lines were coiled on the ground outside the window.



Thanks to the CERT class that he took from all of you, he not only learned to use his head and observe when things were going bad, but also to think of what to do when things are going bad instead of panicking. He stayed in the truck and called for help. When the EMS trucks arrived they stayed far away and yelled to him to climb into the back seat of the truck. He was in the truck for over 2 1/2 hours waiting for the power company to arrive and secure the scene so he could get out.

He is safe today because of the CERT training you all provided, and his guardian angel. He walked away from what could have been a fatal crash with a couple of small cuts from shattered glass.

Once again I offer my deepest appreciation for all of the efforts that the CERT volunteers give to teach others how to be safer and think in a crisis.