

## Hamptonburgh Emergency Response Team certified in wildland skills



Photo 1 of 1 | Zoom Photo +



Hamptonburgh CERT coordinator Richard Rasmussen and Ranger David Slingerland discuss the search operation at Stewart State Forest.

Photo by John Gramm

Text Size: A | A | A

 Print this Article  Email this Article  
[ShareThis](#)

Published: 2:00 AM - 05/21/10

HAMPTONBURGH — Members of the Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) based in Hamptonburgh recently received certification in basic wildland search skills.

Search and rescue education is one of the core requirements of the CERT program.

The full-day training was given by rangers Gregory Tyrrell and David Slingerland of the New York state Department of Environmental Conservation. It consisted of a morning classroom session followed by a field exercise at Stewart State Forest.

As part of the DEC's search and rescue program, rangers train emergency service workers and volunteers to work with them during incidents.

"CERT members did an excellent job with the technical portion of the training and with the long hike through the woods searching for clues and simulating a search on one of the hottest days this year," said Richard Rasmussen, CERT coordinator.

The course included an overview of the Incident Command System, crew roles and responsibilities, search line, effective communications, staying safe, and necessary equipment.

CERT volunteers are educated about disaster preparedness and train in basic emergency response skills, including first aid, triage, sheltering, mass care, and psychological first aid.

### Reader Reaction