

OPINION

Readers respond: Volunteer emergency training is money well spent

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Letters to the editor



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Our city is struggling in some major ways, but I want to give a shout out to a group of city workers who help make our city work. I recently completed basic training to become a [Neighborhood Emergency Team volunteer](#), sponsored by the Portland Bureau of Emergency Management. Over the course of three classroom days and one field training day, I learned how to perform tasks such as putting out a fire, carrying out a search and rescue, extricating a dummy from under a concrete slab and performing triage.

I did this with a cohort of about 30 other citizen volunteers. We gave our free time to learn these skills so that we could be of service in the event of an emergency. We now have joined hundreds of other volunteers who have taken this training in the past.

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I appreciate that money has been budgeted for this. I really appreciate the employees who trained us. They were all professional, supportive and appreciative of our time. This is one area where our tax money is well spent. Thank you.

Paul Rinehart, Portland

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