

Wisconsin LEPC Newsletter

September 2023 Vol. 2

This newsletter is a joint venture between a workgroup of Wisconsin Emergency Management (WEM) and statewide county emergency management representatives. This workgroup was formed to provide guidance and training to Local Emergency Planning Committees (LEPC), as they work to reenergize and improve participation in emergency planning in their communities.

EPCRA

Struggling with outreach activities? If your County is receiving or planning to receive funding through the EPCRA Planning Grant, one of the deliverables required are three different types of EPCRA outreach activities. Some examples of activities include:

EHS Facility Visits	Newsletters
Social Media Posts	Public Speaking Engagement
LEPC Outreach Booth/Table	EPCRA Brochure Distribution

LEPC

Chairperson

EPCRA Section 301(c) requires the appointment of a Chairperson of the LEPC. The Chairperson can be any LEPC member but should consider the availability, credibility, management skills, commitment to the program and respect from other LEPC members and the Community.

Coordinator of Information

EPCRA Section 301(c) requires the appointment of an information coordinator. This position processes requests from the public for information including, but not limited to, hazardous chemical inventory information submitted by facilities, the community emergency response plan, and the follow-up written report filed for chemical emergency releases.

Non-Required Positions

Vice-Chairperson, Secretary/Treasurer, Sub-Committee Chairpersons

Sub-Committees

Though not required, sub-committees are a consideration for easier planning, management and usage of member expertise. The appointment of sub-committee chairpersons may also help the process. If applicable to the County, sub-committees could be established on a temporary basis to accomplish a specific task. Some examples of sub-committees include: Planning, Public Information, Training and Exercise, Business/Industry Outreach, Compliance, Steering, Claims.

Training

- CAMEO for Planning Class – Oct 25th – Nov 29th, Wednesday webinars (final session of 2023). [Click Here](#) for more information.
- Hazardous Materials Awareness – Nov 27 – 30, Center for Domestic Preparedness, Anniston, AL. [Click Here](#) for more information.
- Keep an eye on the [WEM Training Portal](#) for:
 - HazMat Refresher – November 2023
 - EPCRA Inspector – November 2023
 - WHOPRS Basics – December 2023

Resources

- <https://wem.wi.gov/epcra/>
- <https://www.epa.gov/>
- <https://wi.webeocasp.com/wi/default.aspx>
- <https://www.epa.gov/epcra/consolidated-list-lists>
- <https://www.epa.gov/cameo/what-cameo-software-suite>
- <https://www.epa.gov/cameo/cameo-data-manager-software>
- <https://www.epa.gov/epcra/national-lepc-tepc-handbook>
- <https://dnr.wisconsin.gov/topic/Brownfields/botw.html>

Recent & Upcoming Events

Outagamie County LEPC participated in two outreach events in August – one at Shiocton National Night Out and another at the Center Fire Department Summer Picnic. Members of the LEPC volunteered a few hours at each event to talk to the public about chemical hazards in the community and preparedness activities. They also played an evacuation



game where participants were told a train had derailed near their house, releasing a hazardous substance. The fire department was at their door and they had 30 seconds to gather everything they needed to evacuate their home for an unknown amount of time. There was a toy train and train track and a dollhouse with toy people, food, water, pets, electronics, clothing, etc. After the 30 seconds were up, we discussed what they chose to bring/leave and why. Kids were excited to play the game and parents loved seeing what their children chose!

Photos by Outagamie Emergency Management



Come to our Workshop at WEMA!

Here is a great opportunity to hear more about LEPC's and give us your thoughts! At the Wisconsin Emergency Management Association's Annual Conference on September 21, 2023, the LEPC Best Practices Working Group will be talking about LEPC's, what they are all about, where to go to learn more, and how you can tell us about your success stories and challenges. We'll be in the main meeting room at 11:15 a.m. Hope to see you there!

Commodity Flow Study

We mentioned a grant opportunity in our first newsletter for a regional commodity flow study and missed the chance to explain what a commodity flow study is! A Commodity Flow Study focuses on local transportation routes, pipelines, and railroads to determine commodity flow patterns. The grant mentioned in the newsletter funded studies that included, but were not limited to:

- Assess flow patterns of hazmat transportation within a jurisdiction.
- Assessment of local response capabilities and resources to a transportation hazmat incident.
- General preparedness planning for improvement and implementation of hazmat transportation-related emergency plans.

Look for your region's study to be completed by March 31, 2024.

In the News

IndyStar article about the increase of hazardous materials incidents in the Midwest. [Click Here.](#)

This Newsletter is issued quarterly to bring ideas and information for helping your LEPC and energizing them in your county.

The next issue will be released in January 2024. If you have ideas that you would like to share, please reach out to [Darlene Pintarro](#). Let's work together here in Wisconsin!

Did You Know?

For substances that are known to be or suspected to be a hazardous material, follow this general isolation rule until more information is gathered:

Solid: 75 feet

Liquid: 150 feet

Gas: 300 feet

***If the substance is in multiple states, such as a liquid that is off-gassing, then use the furthest distance.**

Resource: Ozaukee County EM & LEPC Vol. 1 First Responder Newsletter
https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1J1lqYq6uv7ChMc2cxdkK2ohJwiru_jBsb?usp=sharing