

The LEPC encourages an active community to increase awareness of hazardous materials and emergency planning, and it should not be viewed as a regulatory commission but rather a partner in safety and preparedness with all local businesses, industries, and most of all, the community. The LEPC is here to help and welcomes any questions, comments, or concerns about local emergency planning and preparation.

All LEPC meetings are open to the public and everyone is invited to attend these meetings. If you are interested in attending these meetings, or for further information or assistance, please contact the LEPC through the Region 44 Emergency Management Office.

# Plan. Prepare. Get Involved.

For more information and meeting dates contact Region 44 Emergency Management:

Phone: (308) 536-4443

Email: Region44em@hamilton.net

OR

Visit the emergency management website at Boone, Merrick, Nance County webpages

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Serving Boone, Merrick, & Nance Counties



#### **BOONE COUNTY**

<u>Local</u>
<u>Emergency</u>
<u>Planning</u>
<u>Committee</u>



### What is an LEPC?

An LEPC is a gathering of representatives in your community that have an interest in hazardous materials safety. This group volunteers their time to attend meetings, review plans, and provide education to the residents of the County. Important functions of the LEPC include; identifying potential risks the community faces from chemicals stored in and/or transported throughout the community. The LEPC seeks ways to help minimize risk, prevent accidents, and assist in the development of local government plans to deal with a chemical emergency.

Industry must be a part of the emergency planning process to ensure facility plans are compatible with local emergency plans.

## To the Residents of Boone County

The good things that chemicals bring into our lives have become very important to us. Hazardous chemicals are a fact of life for every community across the United States and Boone County is no exception. Because of the risks certain chemicals pose, the Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act of 1986 was passed. This Act, often referred to as SARA Title III has four basic requirements. They are: emergency planning, emergency release notification, community right-to-know reporting requirements and toxic chemical release reporting. Users and manufacturers of hazardous chemicals are required to submit an Emergency Hazardous Chemical

Inventory Report or Tier II form to the Local Emergency Planning Committee, and the local fire department with jurisdiction over the facility by March 1st of each year.



Although rare, there is always a chance that a chemical emergency could occur in our community, despite the planning and training of our emergency personnel and the precautions taken by the chemical and transportation industry.



#### PREPARING FOR HAZMAT INCIDENTS

In the event that a hazardous materials release occurs, knowing what to do is key. When a hazmat emergency requires citizens to act to protect themselves, either through evacuation or immediate sheltering, local authorities will notify the public through news outlets, onscene announcements, emergency telephone notification, and possibly door-to-door contact. It is critical to your safety that you follow the emergency instructions that you are given.

If you see an accident or incident that may involve hazardous materials, notify your local emergency authorities, dial 911. **DO NOT** approach an area where potentially hazardous materials may be present. Let authorities and trained emergency personnel handle the situation. Hazardous materials spills should be reported to the proper authorities for safe and complete clean-up and disposal.