

LOCAL EMERGENCY PLANNING COMMITTEE (LEPC)

WHAT IS THE LOCAL EMERGENCY PLANNING COMMITTEE (LEPC)?

The LEPC is a group of local individuals from specific agencies and interested community members who assure that our community has the planning and resource capabilities to effectively handle chemical emergencies.

MISSION STATEMENT

To prepare citizens, industries, and local emergency response agencies for chemical accidents by developing a comprehensive community program that will benefit the entire citizens of Carroll County, including developing emergency response plans, conducting training exercises, and providing public education programs.

WHO SERVES ON THE LEPC?

The SARA Title III law requires that LEPC's be comprised of representatives from private industry, emergency response agencies, chemical transporters, educators, environmental groups, health department, government officials, news media, and private citizens.

HOW DOES THE LEPC KNOW WHAT TO PLAN FOR?

All facilities that maintain over the specified amounts of hazardous substances in inventory are required to report that information to the Local Emergency Planning Committee, the State Emergency Response Commission, and the local fire department in their jurisdiction. This information is due on March 1 of each year with information pertaining to the previous year. These reports are called "chemical inventories" and include information about the facility's emergency coordinator, type(s) of chemical, amount(s) stored on a daily basis, storage information, and the hazards associated with each chemical listed.

PERFORMANCE MEASURES

The measure of success in government and public service organizations is how we provide and improve service to our citizens. The criteria used to measure the success of our LEPC include, but is not limited to, the following:

- Organizing and administering the LEPC
- Collecting and filing hazard data (e.g., material safety data sheets, tier I and tier II reports, etc.)
- Conducting site-specific vulnerable zone analysis
- Developing site-specific emergency response plans and standard operating procedures
- Assisting the hazardous materials response team with obtaining the necessary training and equipment
- Acquiring and maintaining emergency communications
- Developing training programs for all local emergency responders
- Developing protective action decision guides
- Acquiring and maintaining warning systems
- Analyzing evacuation and shelter-in-place time for local populations
- Promoting community toxic chemical hazard awareness
- Educating the community regarding proper protective actions