
HELP CAER™

Quarterly Newsletter

November 2011

Serving the East Multnomah County Public/Private Sectors since 1993

Karen Reynolds – Facilitator
Jim Slauson - Program Coordinator
Cherilyn Foglio - Program Coordinator

Karen Reynolds – Newsletter
Theodora Tsongas - Newsletter

HELP CAER in East Multnomah and Clackamas County.....

would like to invite each and every one of you who receive this newsletter to attend our next quarterly meeting.

We are a very relaxed group of individuals, fun to be around, and we have many interesting ways of handling a variety of issues which may affect the way you do business in the area of safety and business recovery.

QUARTERLY MEETINGS: Gresham City Hall, Conference Rooms, March, June, September, and December

PARKING: Gresham City Hall parking lot.

DECEMBER MEETING

Gresham City Hall, Springwater Trail Room
1333 NW Eastman Parkway
Wednesday
December 7, 2011
10:30 – Noon

TOPIC

Columbia River Flood Control – Sandy River to the Willamette River

Dave Hendricks, Executive Director
Multnomah County Drainage District #1
Peninsula Drainage District #1
Peninsula Drainage District #2
Sandy Drainage Improvement Company

Upcoming CAER - HELP meetings: March 7, 2012

Notes from the September 14, 2011, HELP-CAER Meeting, Gresham City Hall, Oregon Trail Room

Karen Reynolds opened the meeting with introductions and announcements.

HELP-CAER members' numbers are dwindling, and many emails are bouncing back, likely due to old addresses/contacts for companies or agencies. Krista Fischer, Office of the State Fire Marshal provided a list of companies who submitted a Fire Marshal's survey. Jim Slauson and Dale Shamp will update our contact list.

Regulatory News:

Office of the State Fire Marshal, OSFM

With the recent loss of CR2K funds at the State level, changes in the program have occurred. The CR2K training and support for Local Emergency Planning Committees (LEPCs) have been reduced. The staff of that program has been assigned elsewhere in the State Fire Marshal's Office (OSFM). Someone is still keeping track of the LEPC website, but it is not up to date. The Multnomah County LEPC may try to have its own website. Sue Otjen and Mariana Ruiz-Temple are the contacts the LEPCs at OSFM.

http://www.oregon.gov/OSP/SFM/Local_Emergency_Planning_Committees.shtml#Local_Emergency_Planning_Committees_LEPC_in_Oregon

November 9th, 0800 EST there will be a nationwide test of the emergency alert system.

Public Alerts - The City of Portland, in partnership with Multnomah County, has instituted a countywide emergency notification system that will be able to send text and telephone notifications to residents and businesses within Multnomah County impacted by, or in danger of being impacted by, an emergency or significant event. This system will be used by emergency response personnel to notify those homes and businesses at risk with information on the event and/or actions (such as evacuation) we are asking them to take.

Subscribers to this system will receive emergency alerts via e-mail, phone call or text/SMS messages when the associated address will be impacted by an emergency. To sign up go to <http://www.publicalerts.org/>

Training:

The OEMA conference was October 10-14th at Sun River. Contact Mary Davis for more information davisma@tvfr.com

Oregon Emergency Management – Training Calendar, contact Kelly Joe Cragmiles to received updates kelly.jo.craigmiles@state.or.us

The State Hazmat Team conference will be February 22-24, 2012 in Sunriver. Conference Director: Mariana Ruiz-Temple - Oregon State Fire Marshal Office mariana.ruiz-temple@st.or.us

The Oregon Trail Red Cross Chapter has monthly and online preparedness classes.

http://www.oregonredcross.org/general_calltoaction.asp?CTA=3&SN=201&OP=2799&IDCapitulo=663B0ID44V

HELP-CAER Networking News:

Dale Shamp, NACO Material Handling, described the well head protection program. The monthly Stormwater Spill Control meetings are good networking opportunities for LEPC members.

ECHO-CAER Group meeting – Thursday, December 8th, Galvanizers Inc. 2406 N.W. 30th, Portland, OR. Santa may be there!

LEPC Meeting - Friday, December 9th, 9-11 am, Portland Fire and Rescue Training Center 4800 NE 122nd (north of Sandy Blvd).

Guest Speakers:

Presentation and Discussion of the Precision Cast Parts, May 11, 2011 HazMat Incident

Lt. Tom Gall, HazMat Team 3 (Gresham) and Grant Coffey, Hazmat Team 7 Coordinator (Portland)

This spring and summer, there have been four major hazmat incidents in the metro area:

- 1) OHSU Acrolein spill closed down a lab, February 18th.
http://www.oregonlive.com/portland/index.ssf/2011/02/ohsu_medical_research_building.html
- 2) Train wreck along Highway 30 with denatured alcohol spill and fire, May 4th. Three cars carrying 28,000 gallons each. http://www.oregonlive.com/pacific-northwest-news/index.ssf/2011/05/hazmat_crews_firefighters_respond_to_train_derailment_near_scappoose.html
- 3) Precision Cast Parts, Hydrochloric and Nitric acid reaction, May 11th
http://www.oregonlive.com/milwaukie/index.ssf/2011/05/chemical_release_forces_evacuation_of_precision_castparts_plant_firefighters_urge_residents_to_stay.html
- 4) Alpenrose Dairy – anhydrous Ammonia release, June 15th.
http://www.oregonlive.com/portland/index.ssf/2011/06/fire_bureau_wraps_up_work_on_a.html

Precision Cast Parts is on the Multnomah/Clackamas County Line. Clackamas Fire was Incident Command. HazMat Team 3 and Team 7 responded. A PGE power/voltage surge fried the circuits in the plant and the scrubbers were not working. Precision Cast Parts does “chemical milling” on Titanium metal using acid bath etching – nitric acid and hydrochloric, which generates NOX gas.

Precision Cast Parts could not stop the reaction and could not remove it, so they continued venting gases – plume modeling was done by Portland Hazmat. Other processes were generating acid wastes which are collected in a sump. If the mixture becomes too acidic the pump shuts off and there is a risk that the sump

could overflow waste acid into Johnson Creek. The HazMat responders had to neutralize the sump contents to stop the overflow.

The teams were able to use advanced technology: Camera with the entry team so that plant employees can direct them to turn off the valves. KGW's Eye in the Sky, fixed wing aircraft sent videos directly to the Incident Command Center. Hazmat and Fire Departments use Cameo, Aloha, and Marplot computer programs to track, model and plan for response. HazMat has new gas sniffing machine that can identify many gases.

The Boeing HazMat team came to help when the hazmat team ran out of testing gear.

Problems: There are multiple entry points to this plant which lies on the boundaries of several jurisdictions. A Unified Command would have helped with coordinating the two HazMat teams and responsible party responders.

Responders called dispatch in Portland and requested a shelter in place message via Reverse 911. Portland has a new system, but the dispatcher did not know about it – no one called to warn nearby residents. Dispatchers have been briefed on the new system which calls landline phones. People with cell phones need to sign up for the Public Alert messages at <http://www.publicalerts.org/>

The \$100K bill was sent to Precision Cast Parts.

Lessons Learned:

It is important to decontaminate people before transporting them. Do not send contaminated patients to transport or to the Emergency Department (ED) or it will shut down the ED! DECON BEFORE TRANSPORT.

Call in to report incidents: OERS (Oregon Emergency Response System) only makes a few automatic calls in response to reports – so you need to tell them what you want – or they won't call. Tell them to notify the HazMat team.

Fire and HazMat teams need to know where people will be sheltering in place in your plant and the people in your plant need to know where to go to shelter in place; how to use PPE; where the PPE is kept, and where it should be kept. ☺ Many times police kept their Air Purifying Respirators, APR, in the office, not in their patrol cars.

Train!! The Portland Fire Bureau Training Center - 122nd and Sandy Blvd holds

- OPS Classes, 3 days – Awareness 8 hour for first day.
- OPS Certificate – 3 days, plus 40 hrs practice.
- Contact Grant Coffey grant.coffey@portlandoregon.gov

Many thanks to Lt. Tom Gall and Grant Coffey for their very informative and interesting presentation.

Our next meeting is December 7, 2011, 10:30 am, Gresham City Hall, Springwater Trail meeting room.

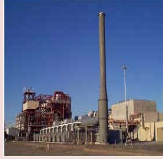
Information:

Oregon DEQ

<http://www.oregon.gov/DEQ/>

Hot Topics

Army's Hermiston Facility Safely Completes Chemical Weapons Destruction



After about seven years, the U.S. Army's Umatilla Chemical Agent Disposal Facility near Hermiston has completed the safe incineration of liquid chemical agent that had been part of the Umatilla Chemical Depot's chemical weapons stockpile for decades. The facility disposed of the last batch of blister or "mustard" agent on Oct. 25, 2011. DEQ's Chemical Demilitarization Program oversees the facility's hazardous waste permit to ensure safety for human health and the environment. Learn more about the next steps at the facility as it moves toward closure, and [get information about DEQ's continuing work at the site.](#)

Environmental Protection Agency – Oregon News

<http://www.epa.gov/aboutepa/states/or.html>

EPA News Releases, Region 10

<http://yosemite.epa.gov/opa/admpress.nsf/d96f984dfb3ff7718525735900400c29>

FEMA Suggests: This Holiday Season Think Safety <http://www.fema.gov/news/newsrelease.fema?id=3736>

FEMA News Releases <http://www.fema.gov/news/recentnews.fema>

Gresham Emergency Management website - November's Preparedness Topic – influenza; a very retro poster is available.

<http://greshamoregon.gov/city/city-departments/governance-and-management/emergency-management/>

Northwest Regional Training Center – Homeland Security Training schedule

http://www.nwrtec.org/homeland_security/training.php

Oregon Emergency Management Training Calendar

http://www.oregon.gov/OMD/OEM/plans_train/train_exercise.shtml

Oregon Emergency Management Association

<http://www.oregonemergency.com/>

Oregon OSHA <http://orosha.org/>

OSHA has found that distracted driving is the most frequent cause of accidents. The Department of Transportation and Federal OSHA the Departments of Labor (DOL) and Transportation (DOT) are joining forces in a campaign to stop distracted driving and save lives. Year after year, the leading cause of worker fatalities is motor vehicle crashes. There's no question that new communications technologies are helping

business work smarter and faster. But getting work done faster does not justify the dramatically increased risk of injury and death that comes with texting while driving.

The human toll is tragic. DOT reports that in 2009, more than 5,400 people died in crashes linked to distraction and thousands more were injured. “Texting while driving” has become such a prominent hazard that 30 states now ban text messaging for all drivers.

OSHA is partnering with others across government, industry and the public to bring together important information and tools to attack texting while driving and other distracted driver hazards. We invite you to learn more about combating this problem at www.osha.gov and at DOT’s distracted driving website, www.distraction.gov.

Oregon Waste Water Agency Response Network (ORWARN) <http://orwarn.org/>

Red Cross <http://www.redcross.org/>