



# Oregon LEPC's

*"Local Resources for Local Issues"*

# What Is An LEPC?

## **Local Emergency Planning Committee**

- Established through the Emergency Planning & Community Right-to-Know Act (EPCRA) of 1986
- Designed to bring together public and private disciplines, involved in planning for and responding to Hazardous Materials Spills

# What Is An LEPC?

- Emergency responders (fire, police, EMS)
- Emergency management
- Hospitals
- Industry
- Government officials
- City councils
- Broadcast & print media
- Red Cross
- Academia
- Public
- Environmental Groups

# EPCRA Goals

- EPCRA has two main goals:
  - Encourage and support emergency planning for responding to chemical accidents
  - Provide local governments and the public with information about possible chemical hazards

# How LEPCs Are Supported

- EPCRA establishes a State Emergency Response Commission (SERC)
- SERC made up of same disciplines from selected state agencies
- Provides a venue for state level coordination and support of local efforts
- A link between the state and federal government

# How LEPCs Are Supported

- SERC responsible to break state into planning districts and appoint LEPCs
- Provide support to the LEPCs in pre-planning activities and public outreach
- Assist in issues beyond LEPCs ability to address
- Administer the Hazardous Materials Emergency Preparedness (HMEP) Grant

# Oregon LEPC Structure 1986 - 2007

- SERC duties assigned to Interagency Hazard Communications Council
- IHCC made entire state one planning district
- Appointed a single state-wide LEPC
- 2007 - SERC responsibilities transferred to State Fire Marshal
- SFM directs LEPC's to be localized

# Oregon's New LEPC Structure

- Local entities developing an LEPC choose their own planning district
- Have the option to address “All-Hazard” issues
- Have direct access to state level tools, services and resources
- Support from the OSFM, Planning & Training Assistance (PATA) Program staff

# Oregon LEPCs To-Date

## Established and operational LEPCs

- Mid-Valley (Linn & Benton Counties)
- Clatsop County
- Columbia County
- Klamath County
- Morrow County
- Umatilla County

# Linn & Benton Counties



**Mid-Valley**

*Local Resources for Local Issues*

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**Oregon Local Emergency Planning Committees**

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# Mid-Valley LEPC

Officially recognized by the SERC on  
January 14, 2009

- Planning District encompasses all of Linn and Benton Counties
- Current focus is on preventing chemical releases
- Currently, over 50 active members
- Organizational structure consists of;
  - ✓ Executive Committee
  - ✓ Five Workgroups

# Mid-Valley LEPC

## ➤ Executive Committee

- ✓ Execute and manage the business and operational affairs of the LEPC
- ✓ Consists of a Chair, Co-Chair, Treasurer and Information Coordinator
- ✓ Members serve pre-defined terms and are elected by the membership
- ✓ Annual Business Plan development and submission to the SERC

# Mid-Valley LEPC

- Emergency Planning Workgroup
  - ✓ Schedule plan reviews between first responders and facilities possessing Extremely Hazardous Substances (EHS)
  - ✓ Perform plan reviews between first responders and facilities
  - ✓ Monitor Action Items to ensure plan discrepancies are addressed
  - ✓ Report findings to LEPC, SERC

# Mid-Valley LEPC

- Resource Assessment Workgroup
  - ✓ Identifies emergency response organizations within planning district
  - ✓ Surveys responders to identify needs
    - Training
    - Equipment
  - ✓ Identifies costs to address those needs
  - ✓ Reports findings to LEPC and SERC for possible inclusion into Business Plan

# Mid-Valley LEPC

## ➤ Outreach Workgroup

- ✓ Identifies areas of the community that could be impacted by a chemical release
- ✓ Develops plan for providing public outreach/education to affected area
- ✓ Coordinates outreach activities with facilities, responders and media
- ✓ Responds to request from public for more information/clarification

# Mid-Valley LEPC

## ➤ Membership Workgroup

- ✓ Surveys Planning District to identify organizations/individuals that should be, or could benefit from participation
- ✓ Makes contact to solicit participation
- ✓ Provides information and answers questions about the LEPC

# Mid-Valley LEPC

## ➤ Presentation Workgroup

- ✓ Identifies topics relevant to the interest and needs of the LEPC membership
- ✓ Identifies speakers with expertise in identified topics
- ✓ Coordinates with speaker and Executive Committee to schedule presentation

# Mid-Valley LEPC

## ➤ Accomplishments for 2009

- ✓ Developed internal working structure for the LEPC
  - By-Laws
  - Elected officers
  - Committee and Workgroup structure
  - Workgroup responsibilities
- ✓ Received training on LEPC responsibilities
- ✓ Performed plan reviews between first responders and six (6) EHS facilities
- ✓ Received training on utilizing the Hazardous Substance Information System

# Mid-Valley LEPC

## ➤ Goals for 2010

- ✓ Conduct one (1) public meeting
- ✓ Conduct plan reviews between first responders and nine (9) EHS facilities
- ✓ Conduct two (2) community plan reviews
  - 1 for Benton County
  - 1 for Linn County
- ✓ Provide three (3) membership trainings
- ✓ Release three (3) public outreach articles

# Mid-Valley LEPC

- ✓ Conduct six resource assessment interviews
- ✓ Contact four potential LEPC members

# Mid-Valley LEPC

- Multi-Hazard Approach to Planning & Training:
  - ✓ Flood
  - ✓ Fire
  - ✓ Earthquake
  - ✓ Pandemic Flu
  - ✓ Wind
  - ✓ Winter Storms

# Mid-Valley LEPC

- Who we coordinate with locally:
  - ✓ Linn & Benton County Emergency Management
  - ✓ Oregon Hospital Preparedness Program (HPP)
  - ✓ Linn Benton Vulnerable Population Committee
  - ✓ Linn & Benton Fire Defense Boards
  - ✓ Linn Benton Public Information Network
  - ✓ Linn & Benton Animals in Disaster
  - ✓ Law Enforcement

# Questions?

## Mid-Valley LEPC Contact:

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## SERC Contact:

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