

MEETING SUMMARY OF 21 MAY 2009 NORTH CENTRAL FLORIDA LEPC

The North Central Florida Local Emergency Planning Committee (District 3) last met at the Lafayette County Emergency Operations Center in Mayo on May 21, 2009. Items discussed included hazardous materials training, outreach seminars for dairies and chicken growers, supporting chemistry education in schools, and a review of the State Emergency Response Commission Annual Report.

The primary hazardous materials training goal for this year was to teach an IAFF 160 hour technician class using local instructors, the Hazmat Boot Camp and the Regional Hazmat Team's training trailer. As preparation, a couple of operations level classes have been held this quarter and a couple more are being planned for next quarter. Due to certification difficulties, the starting date for the IAFF class will be next fiscal year. In its place, the LEPC decided to request holding two Hazmat IQ classes as preparation for the future technician class.

Three classes on using E-Plan and the new CAMEO, ALOHA and MARPLOT updates will be scheduled in the near future. The new versions are available to download at no charge from www.epa.gov.

The LEPC continued its discussion of the new requirement concerning reporting under Section 304 to the LEPC of continuous ammonia releases from animal waste. The LEPC is working to identify potential meetings of chicken growers and dairy operators so we can go to them to present information the reporting requirements.

The LEPC endorsed the idea of promoting chemistry education as the theme for the 2010 Hazardous Materials Awareness Week. The LEPC discussed the ideas presented at the SERC meeting and during the Subcommittee on Training conference call. The objective of the LEPC is to announce accomplishments during Hazardous Materials Week rather than trying to conduct a project then.

The LEPC reviewed and discussed the 2008 SERC Annual Report. This review included the current issues which are being discussed by the SERC Subcommittee on Training.

Staff activities include providing administrative support to the LEPC, scheduling and teaching hazmat classes, and using CAMEO to update hazards analyses for seven counties. Staff continues to provide administrative support for the North Central Florida Regional Hazardous Materials Response Team. Staff is helping to develop a CAMEO Suite Users Exam to allow voluntary certification through NOAA/EPA.

Staff assisted the Division of Emergency Management conduct a training and exercise plan workshop and helped evaluate the State Emergency Operations Center during the statewide hurricane exercise. He assisted with teaching a Hurricane Evacuation and Re-Entry class at the Orange County EOC. Staff attended the North American Hazardous Materials Management Association (NAHMMA) annual Florida conference and won a Bronze Medal in the Hazardous Waste Olympics. Staff participated in the conference call on promoting chemistry education in our schools.

Staff taught an HSEEP Overview class at the Intermediate Emergency Management Academy held at Camp Blanding and helped teach the full class in Brevard County. The Brevard HSEEP class used the updated materials now being used by the regional planning councils with certificates being issued by the Emergency Management Institute. Staff is scheduled to teach an HSEEP class in Tallahassee on July 22-24, 2009.

The next LEPC meeting is tentatively scheduled for 10:00 a.m., Thursday, August 20, 2009, possibly at the new Dixie County EOC in Cross City.