



U.S. ARMY CHEMICAL MATERIALS AGENCY

Chemical Stockpile Emergency Preparedness Program

The U.S. Army Chemical Materials Agency (CMA) is responsible for the secure storage and safe destruction of the nation's stockpile of chemical agents and weapons. In order to accomplish this mission, extensive precautions are in place for every aspect of the storage and destruction process to ensure safety for the community, the work force and the environment. The Chemical Stockpile Emergency Preparedness Program (CSEPP) is a unique partnership between CMA and the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) that helps prepare and protect communities surrounding the nation's seven stockpile sites.

Preparing Communities

CSEPP ensures effective emergency preparedness of approximately 40 counties and one tribal confederation in nine states surrounding the stockpile storage sites. CSEPP works closely with these communities to enhance emergency response plans and training, and to identify and secure response and communication equipment and warning systems to meet each community's emergency preparedness needs. CSEPP has provided funding and technical assistance to:

- Improve public warning capabilities
- Build and upgrade start-of-the-art emergency operations centers
- Train emergency managers and first responders
- Develop computer models to predict the speed, direction and extent of the hazard from a chemical release
- Increase public knowledge and understanding of protective actions

- Over-pressurize schools, medical facilities and other buildings
- Study emergency response options to determine the best way to protect communities
- Train doctors and nurses to treat victims of chemical agent exposure
- Purchase emergency response equipment, such as individual protective equipment, decontamination trailers and communication systems

To improve readiness, CSEPP conducts emergency response exercises each year to ensure communities are prepared in the unlikely event of a stockpile accident or incident. These annual exercises involve volunteers and emergency responders from local and state agencies – police officers, firefighters and emergency medical teams – and federal organizations who test out systems and procedures that would be used in an actual incident. During these exercises, officials monitor and evaluate plans, methods and communication. Skills and knowledge gained during CSEPP exercises are ones that emergency responders are able to use every day in protecting their communities.

Protecting Communities

One of the most prominent features of CSEPP is its warning systems. At each stockpile site, there is a network of alert and notification systems used to warn citizens in surrounding communities of potential dangers. In such an event, a series of outdoor warning sirens, and at some sites tone-alert radios as well, alert residents living or working near the site. These systems provide necessary information

For more information, contact the CMA Agency Communications Office at (410) 436-3629 (800) 488-0648



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and emergency protective actions needed to protect the safety of communities.

Outreach offices located near stockpile sites have helpful information on what to do in the case of a chemical emergency. Visit the CMA Web site, www.cma.army.mil, to find an outreach office near you.

Benefiting Communities

Long after the stockpile has been eliminated, the legacy of CSEPP will benefit communities from its provision and support of equipment, facilities and training.

Resources on the Web

American Red Cross www.redcross.org

Chemical Materials Agency..... www.cma.army.mil

Chemical Stockpile Emergency Preparedness Program

Alabama www.areyoureadygoema.com

Arkansas..... www.arkansascsepp.com

Colorado www.dem.co.pueblo.co.us/CSEPP

Indiana www.in.gov/sema/emerg_mgt/tech_hazards/csepp.html

Kentucky webserve.dma.state.ky.us/csepp

Oregon www.csepp.net

Utah..... www.tcem.org/csepp.htm

Federal Emergency Management Agency www.fema.gov

U.S. Department of Homeland Security www.dhs.gov/dhspublic