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EPA Region 8 Emergency Preparedness Newsletter

Volume XIV No. 2 Second Quarter 2024 Newsletter

Welcome to the EPA Region 8 Preparedness Newsletter.

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PFOA/PFOS CERCLA Designation

On May 8, 2024, the EPA Administrator signed a final rule, [Designation of PFOA and PFOS, and their salts and structural isomers as CERCLA Hazardous Substances](#). The main section of this document is updated to include entries for PFOA and PFOS reflecting the Reportable Quantity (RQ) of one pound.

CERCLA designation enables cost recovery and enforcement authorities to address PFOA and PFOS releases, which ensures that the polluters pay for investigations and cleanup. Designation will enable EPA (and other agencies with delegated CERCLA authority) to address more sites, take earlier action, and expedite eventual cleanup. It will also improve transparency around releases of these harmful chemicals.

The final rule requires entities to immediately report releases of PFOA and PFOS that meet or exceed the reportable quantity to the National Response Center, state or Tribal emergency response commission, and the local or Tribal emergency planning committee (local emergency responders).

Please visit the links below for more information:

[Questions and Answers about Designation of PFOA and PFOS as Hazardous Substances under CERCLA](#)

[Factsheet on Release Notification Requirements](#)

[PFAS Enforcement Discretion and Settlement Policy Under CERCLA](#)

Updated [List of Lists](#) including the PFOA/PFOS information

Interim Guidance on PFAS Destruction/Disposal

In April 2024, EPA released an updated [“Interim Guidance on the Destruction and Disposal of Perfluoroalkyl and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances and Materials Containing Perfluoroalkyl and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances.”](#) The updated guidance reflects the latest, best available science to provide information that managers of PFAS wastes can use to evaluate the most appropriate destruction, disposal, or storage method among those currently available. The guidance also recommends that decision-makers prioritize the use of technologies with the lowest potential for environmental release, to better protect people and communities from PFAS exposures.

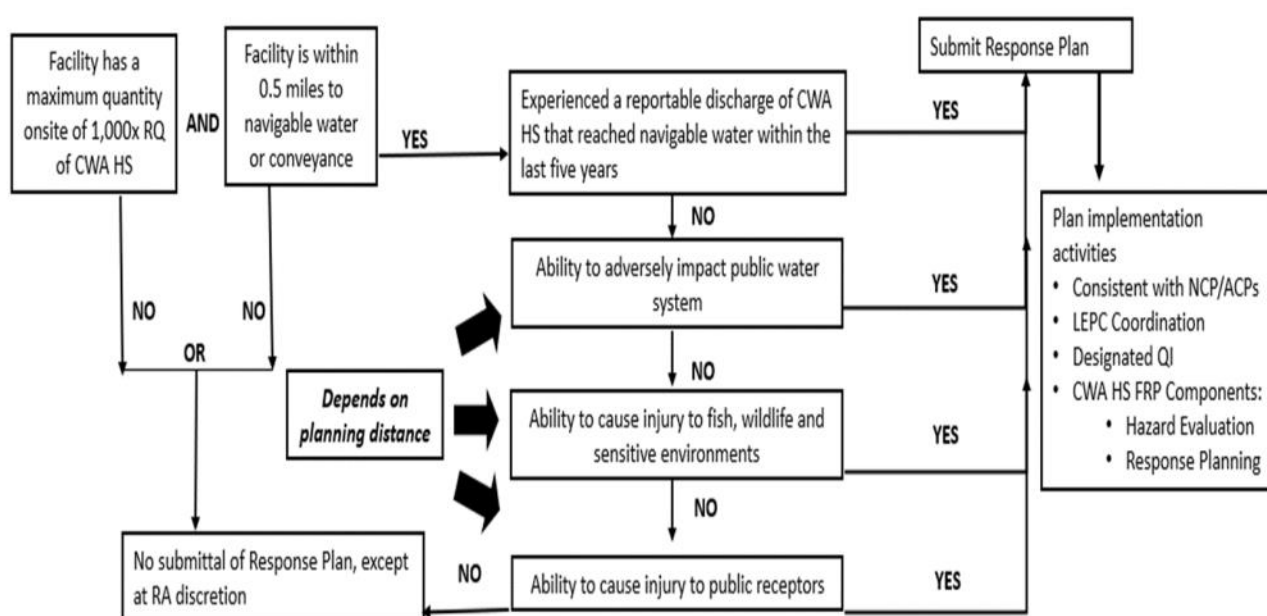
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CWA Hazardous Substance Facility Response Plans

As of May 28, 2024, the Clean Water Act Hazardous Substance Facility Response Plan regulations became effective. Regulated facilities are required to submit response plans to EPA within 36 months of the effective date of the rule. During this time, the agency is committed to conducting outreach and providing compliance assistance to the regulated community and implementing organizations to help understand the requirements.

For more information on the final rule, please see [EPA's Clean Water Act Hazardous Substance Facility Response Plans website](#).



Safer Communities by Chemical Accident Prevention

On May 10, 2024, the Safer Communities by Chemical Accident Prevention (SCCAP) rule became effective. These revisions to the current RMP rule (RMP Reconsideration Rule) further protect vulnerable communities from chemical accidents, especially those living near facilities industrial sectors with high accident rates. The amendments include several revisions and amplifications to the accident prevention program requirements, enhancements to the emergency [Fact Sheets for Communities](#) and [Fact Sheets for Regulated Facilities](#). More information can be found on the [EPA SCCAP](#) webpage.

RMP Reconsideration Rule

Are you an RMP facility? Even with the finalization of the Safer Communities by Chemical Accident Prevention Rule, your facility is still regulated under the RMP Reconsideration Rule. There are still a number of emergency response and planning requirements that have passed and are still coming up. [Contact Bre Bockstahler](#), consult the general [RMP Reconsideration page](#) or consult [Chapter 8 in the RMP Guidance](#) for updates to the Emergency Response Program for details.

Compliance Dates: [December 2019 Final Rule Effective Date]

What	Due Date
Public Meetings	Within 90 days of any qualifying accident that occurs after March 15, 2021
Develop Emergency Response Programs	Within three years of owner or operator determining that facility is subject to the provisions
Develop exercise plans and schedules	December 2023
Conduct first notification drill	December 2024
Conduct first tabletop exercise	December 2026
Conduct first field exercise	According to the exercise schedule established by the owner or operator in coordination with local response agencies
Submit RMP with new information elements	The owner or operator would provide new information elements with any initial RMP or RMP resubmission made after December 2024.
Comply with new emergency coordination requirements	Already in effect as of September 21, 2018
Comply with remaining minor accident prevention provisions	Already in effect as of September 21, 2018

Activities Around the Region

The second quarter 2024 has once again been full of activities through-out the region. If any of these activities are of interest to your community or facility, we can either put you in touch with those hosts or EPA Region 8 can assist with your event. Be sure to reach out to Bre Bockstahler (bockstahler.breann@epa.gov) or Ben Sharaf (sharaf.benjamin@epa.gov) with questions and inquiries.

Larimer County, Colorado, held their annual LEPC summit back in April with presenters from federal, state, and local partners along with an environmental local clean-up company. Case studies and agency overviews and best practices were presented to the group.

Activities Around the Region, cont'd.

In May, Colorado held their inaugural Hazmat Response Summit consisting of members of the Colorado Fire Service across the state where HazMat response, HazMat Team development as well as EPA resources were among the topics discussed. The summit also spent time in workgroup discussions on how to develop strategies and improve HazMat responses in Colorado.

The Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes (CSKT) in Polson, Montana held a one and a half day oil spill training and exercise in May. An EPA Region 8 On-Scene-Coordinator instructed a course on



minimizing the impacts of a spill and the

various authorities and capabilities of the EPA. The following day, a three hour tabletop exercise (TTX) was conducted to help improve the Tribe's preparedness efforts. CSKT was able to not only better understand the emergency response process, but they also were able to gather information that can aid their incoming Emergency Manager.



In June, the EPA partnered with the City of Billings and Yellowstone County to develop a four hour train derailment TTX. This TTX scenario involved a major HAZMAT release in downtown Billings. This exercise was a great opportunity for the locals to build relationships and identify weaknesses in their current emergency plans.



The Regional Response Team 8 (RRT-8) hybrid meeting was held in Denver, Colorado, in May with a focus on discussions related to natural resource damage assessment. Other topics discussed include a case study on the Stillwater Trail Derailment, a capabilities briefing on the US Coast Guard Strike Team, and an updated on the Chemical Stockpile Emergency Preparedness Program. The next Region 8 RRT meeting will be held in the fall. More information is available [here](#).

PHMSA Updates

Save the Date: PHMSA HMEP Conference - August 19-21, 2024

The Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA) HAZMAT Grant Program is hosting their fourth HMEP conference, August 19-21, in the DC metro area. The conference is an opportunity to engage with PHMSA's HAZMAT grants team and to network and share information with others. The conference will include HMEP grants training, best practices, and other relative topics to HAZMAT response. More information will be forthcoming as they solidify the location and agenda.

Now Available: Expanded Hazardous Materials Commodity Flow Statistics

The U.S Census Bureau and PHMSA's OHMS jointly developed the 2021-2022 Expanded Hazmat Supplement (EHS), a first-of-its-kind dataset for public release. This dataset is an expansion of the 2022 Commodity Flow Survey (CFS), informed by supplemental questions about hazardous materials and new data from hazmat shippers who use DOT-regulated specification packaging.

You can access the dataset here: <https://www.phmsa.dot.gov/hazmat-program-management-data-and-statistics/hazardous-material-commodity-flow-statistics>.

Additional HazMat Training Opportunities

The Security and Emergency Response Training Center (SERTC) offers hands-on training based on OSHA 29 CFR 1910.120 (q) and NFPA Standard 472 requirements including Hazmat Awareness, Operations, Technician, Specialist Level Courses and Incident Commander as well as advanced refresher courses.

SERTC started out as a training mechanism for railroad officials, however the training proved to be so successful that classes were offered to other emergency responders. SERTC serves not only the transportation service industry, but also the public sector emergency response community, the chemical industry, government agencies, and emergency response contractors from all over the world.

You can consult sertc.org for more information about the organization and course offerings.



ChemLock Training Opportunities

ChemLock: Introduction to Chemical Security Training Course

This course provides an introduction to identifying, assessing, evaluating, and mitigating chemical security risks. This easy-to-understand overview identifies key components and best practices of chemical security awareness and planning to help kickstart chemical security discussions at a facility. This course runs 1-2 hours in length and is appropriate for all personnel regardless of their level of involvement with dangerous chemicals.

[Register for July 11, 2024 – 1-3 pm ET](#)

[Register for October 7, 2024 – 11 am-1 pm ET](#)

ChemLock: Secure Your Chemicals Security Planning Training Course

This course walks through how to create a tailored, scalable security plan that meets the business model and unique circumstances of a facility. Participants will learn the key elements of a chemical security plan and benefit from examples, lessons learned, and best practices. The course runs 2-3 hours in length and is designed to help leadership, facility security personnel, and other applicable personnel understand, develop, and implement a facility security plan.

[Register for August 7, 2024 – 11 am-2 pm ET](#)

[Register for November 7, 2024 – 1-4 pm ET](#)

Please share this course information with relevant chemical security stakeholders in your area. To request a special offering of either course for a facility or organization, please fill out the [ChemLock Services Request Form](#). If you have questions about the ChemLock program, please email ChemLock@cisa.dhs.gov.

CISA Security Seminar

Registration Is Open for the 2024 Chemical Security Seminars, Virtual, July 11 and 18

The Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA) will be hosting the fully virtual 2024 Chemical Security Seminars on July 11 and July 18, from 10 am-3 pm ET. Join participants from across the spectrum of sectors—including chemical, energy, communications, transportation, and water—to hear the latest program updates, share perspectives and lessons learned, and engage in dialogue regarding chemical security. Visit the [2024 Chemical Security Seminars webpage](#) to register and to view a preliminary agenda.

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OSHA Announcements

Department of Labor Finalizes Rule Updating the Hazard Communication Standard

The Department of Labor announced a final rule from its Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) that will update the current Hazard Communication Standard to better protect workers by improving the amount and quality of information on labels and safety data sheets and allow workers and first responders to react more quickly in an emergency. The updates take effect on July 19, 2024.

Aligned primarily with the seventh revision of the United Nations' Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals, the [updated standard](#) will require labels on small packaging to be more comprehensive and readable and makes changes to help ensure trade secrets no longer prevent workers and first responders from receiving critical hazard information on safety data sheets.

ASTI Training Opportunities

Ammonia Safety & Training Institute (ASTI) presents Safety Day training and chemical Tabletop Exercises (TTX) available to local industry and community responders

- ASTI formed the National Safety Day Coalition together with IIAR, RETA, and GCCA to present safety and emergency response preparedness training at minimal cost to the attendees.
- ASTI worked with Region 9 EPA to create ammonia Tabletop Exercises based upon the One Plan four stages of response; focused on engaging local, state, and federal emergency response plans.
- ASTI organizes and leads a local committee of industry, public safety, and governmental leaders to create Safety Day presentations and Tabletop Exercises.
- Sample topics include: hazard analysis, health & safety concerns, critical task readiness, rapid “grab and go” rescue by first responders, and methods of containment and control of ammonia events using proper methods, decontamination, teaming agreement with public safety responders, monitoring systems, and command team coordination and communications readiness to address on-site and off-site life safety and environmental receptors.

Event schedule updated regularly on ASTI website at www.ammonia-safety.com.

For a current list of events: [Event Schedule](#)

Contact ASTI via email at asti@ammonia-safety.com or call 831-761-2935 for more information.

CAMEO Training

CAMEO for Planning

Understand the hazardous material threat in your jurisdiction. Experienced instructors will train you how to use the Computer Aided Management of Emergency Operations (CAMEO) Suite software to facilitate planning for hazardous material incidents. This training focuses on CAMEO Data Manager (DM), CAMEO Chemicals, and MARPLOT. [Find more information and register here.](#)

This month-long class includes: online classroom with 24/7 access to weekly lessons, videos & activities; weekly, scheduled live Q&A webinars; 1-hour Zoom call on the first day of class; four 2-hour webinars on the remaining 4 days. Two sessions left in 2024:

Session 3: Oct. 17 – Nov. 14 (Thursday webinars)

Tribal Training Opportunities

Overview of Spill Prevention, Control and Countermeasure Webinar for Tribal Partners

Participants should only register for one of the three offerings below, as all sessions will cover the same material. This one and half hour, EPA-hosted session will provide a basic overview of the [Spill Prevention, Control and Countermeasure oil spill prevention program](#), regulatory requirements, program implementation, and federal oil spill reporting requirements. The session will also include a question-and-answer segment where participants can interact with the SPCC national program manager. The session is designed for those who want to learn “just the basics” of the SPCC rule and EPA Oil Program. Managers, policymakers, facility operators, and other related tribal stakeholders may find this short and basic overview course useful.

[August 21, 2024, 3:00 PM – 4:30 PM EDT](#)

[September 17, 2024, 2:30 PM – 4:00 PM EDT](#)

Spill Prevention, Control and Countermeasure 101 Webinar for Tribal Partners

This four-hour course will provide tribal partners SPCC 101 – a “deeper dive” into the SPCC rules, their applicability, and requirements (e.g., containment, tank integrity, plan updates, etc.). The SPCC inspection process and enforcement will be discussed. An in-depth pictorial review of typical noncompliance found during EPA inspections will also be provided. The webinar will conclude with a question-and-answer session.

[August 22, 2024 1:30 PM – 5:30 PM EDT](#)

Tank Talk: Aboveground Storage Tanks 101 Webinar for Tribal Partners

This four-hour advanced topic session will provide an in-depth overview of the Aboveground Storage Tanks design/construction, appurtenances, piping, inspections, and maintenance.

[September 19, 2024, 1:30 PM – 5:30 PM EDT](#)

FEMA Announcements

FEMA Releases *Climate Adaptation Planning: Guidance for Emergency Managers*

FEMA recently released the "[Climate Adaptation Planning: Guidance for Emergency Managers](#)." The guide helps emergency managers incorporate climate adaptation into planning efforts and the structure is designed to walk state, local, tribal, and territorial partners through the Six Step Planning Process, as identified in "[Comprehensive Preparedness Guide 101: Developing and Maintaining Emergency Operations Plans](#)."

The guide identifies emergency manager responsibilities and resources in climate adaptation planning, by highlighting:

- Climate impacts by community lifeline and recovery support function;
- Existing climate mapping tools;
- Potential funding resources; and
- Climate trainings.

Throughout the guide there are links to a variety of other relevant resources which emergency managers may be interested in. FEMA will host a series of 60-minute webinar sessions to provide an overview of the guide and associated resources. The webinars will also provide information on the Emergency Management Institute's "[Climate Adaptation and Hazard Mitigation Certificate Program](#)."

To access the guide, for more information on the webinars, and for other Planning Guides, visit the FEMA webpage: <https://www.fema.gov/emergency-managers/national-preparedness/plan>.

CAMEO Chemicals Update

CAMEO Chemicals 3.1.0 Software Update Released

[CAMEO Chemicals](#) is available as a website, mobile website, desktop program, and an app for iOS and Android mobile devices.

The 3.1.0 release includes updated data, in particular the newly released 2024 Emergency Response Guidebook (ERG) data and the EPA regulatory data in the [May 2024 Consolidated List of Lists](#).



OSHA Updates

OSHA Emergency Response Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (NPRM)

[OSHA](#) has extended the comment period for the Emergency Response Standard NPRM to July 22, 2024. This proposal is intended to update an existing standard and expand safety and health protections for emergency responders, including firefighters, emergency medical service providers and technical search and rescue workers.

The newly named "Emergency Response" standard updates safety and health protections in line with national consensus standards for a broad range of workers exposed to hazards that arise during and after fires and other emergencies. The proposal will include major changes for protective clothing and equipment and significant improvements in safety and health practices that the industry generally accepts as standard procedures.

Learn more about [OSHA's Emergency Response Rulemaking](#).

FRP Compliance Assistance Workshop

EPA Region 8 will be holding an FRP Compliance Assistance Workshop in Wyoming for oil facilities subject to the FRP Regulations under the Oil Pollution Act (OPA). The workshop will take place on Tuesday, August 27, 2024 in Riverton, Wyoming. The target audience for this workshop includes FRP regulated facility owners, managers, and supervisors, FRP document writers, Qualified Individuals, Health and Safety Managers, Emergency Management Specialists. The topics to be covered will include SPCC (40 CFR 112.7/112.8) and FRP Regulation (40 CFR 112) overview & WOTUS, required FRP Contents, FRP review/approval process and common deficiencies, FRP inspections and Government-Initiated Unannounced

Exercises, and the enforcement process and reconsideration requests.

To register for the workshop please use this [link](#) or the QR code and be sure to note that registration closes Friday, August 23, 2024. This workshop is intended for FRP plan holders in Wyoming, but if you are interested in requesting this training for your state in Region 8, please reach out to Michael Porter (porter.michael@epa.gov) or Angie Villa (villa.angie@epa.gov).



BNSF Preparedness Materials

BNSF Railway has provided a multitude of preparedness and training materials for responders:

ASKRAIL —The ASKRAIL app provides responders at no cost with immediate access to accurate, timely data about what type of hazardous materials are in a specific rail car or on a train so they can make an informed decision about how to respond to a rail emergency. AskRail also has desktop and web-based versions available for local Emergency Communication Centers (ECC) that can be used to provide responders with this necessary hazmat car and train information. Get more information about the AskRail app here: www.askrail.us.

BNSF Hazardous Materials Traffic Flow Reports—BNSF also provides hazardous materials traffic flow reports to fire departments and emergency managers. These reports provide a listing of the hazardous materials that BNSF transported through a city or county over the last 12 months. To request a hazardous materials traffic flow report please go to www.bnsfhazmat.com and select the Community Responder Tab.

BNSF's System Emergency Response Plan—A copy of [BNSF's System Emergency Response Plan](#) is available for your review and use through www.bnsfhazmat.com. Part of our System Emergency Response Plan is BNSF's Incident Management Team (IMT). Our IMT allows for the mobilization of resources at varying levels as dictated by incident circumstances. BNSF's IMT maintains a large group of well-trained personnel to lead and assist with emergency response incidents and is comprised of a local or state IMT, a Regional Away Team, and a Corporate Crisis Management Team (known as a "Go-Team").

BNSF Railway HazMat Training and Information:

- Virtual-Reality Web-Based Training (WBT)—Two new virtual-reality web-based trainings (WBT) are available for free: Initial Incident Size-Up and Reading a Train List. These 20-minute WBTs provide responders with information which will lead to a safe and efficient response.
- Instructor-Led Training—BNSF Hazmat continues to conduct, upon request, instructor-led hazmat training for first responders in communities along our railroad.
- Scholarships to Security and Emergency Response Training Center (SERTC) in Pueblo, CO—BNSF still provides scholarships to cover the tuition to railroad emergency response training at the industry's SERTC in Pueblo, CO. To learn about SERTC go to www.sertc.org.

To register for one of these training opportunities go to www.bnsfhazmat.com and select the Community Responders Tab.

EPA EJ Resources

EPA Announces Online Collection of Environmental Justice Resources

EPA has released the [Environmental Justice Clearinghouse](#), a first-of-its-kind online collection of resources related to environmental justice. Directed by President Biden's [Executive Order on Revitalizing Our Nation's Commitment to Environmental Justice for All](#), the Environmental Justice Clearinghouse will help the public access federal and non-federal resources online as part of the Biden-Harris Administration's ambitious environmental justice agenda.

The preliminary resources listed on the Environmental Justice Clearinghouse were submitted by agencies from across the federal government, including funding opportunities, screening and mapping tools, and technical assistance. The Environmental Justice Clearinghouse features searchable categories to simplify results for the public to ensure a more efficient and accessible process for accessing information related to environmental justice. Visit EPA's website to view the [Environmental Justice Clearinghouse](#).

Chemical Emergency Preparedness and Prevention Documents

EPCRA Requirements: <http://www.epa.gov/epcra>

NRT Hazardous Materials Emergency Planning Guidance:

[https://www.nrt.org/Main/Resources.aspx?ResourceType=Hazards%20\(Oil,%20Chemical,%20Radiological,%20etc\)&ResourceSection=2](https://www.nrt.org/Main/Resources.aspx?ResourceType=Hazards%20(Oil,%20Chemical,%20Radiological,%20etc)&ResourceSection=2)

Actions to Improve Chemical Facility Safety and Security – A Shared Commitment:

<https://www.osha.gov/chemicalexecutiveorder/index.html>

EPCRA On-Line Training: <https://www.epa.gov/epcra/epcra-non-section-313-online-training-states-tribes-lepcs-local-planners-and-responders>

EPCRA Fact Sheets: <https://www.epa.gov/epcra/epcra-fact-sheets>

EPCRA Regional Contacts: <https://www.epa.gov/epcra/epcra-regional-contacts>

EPCRA, RMP & Oil Information Center: <https://www.epa.gov/epcra/forms/contact-us-about-emergency-planning-and-community-right-know-act-epcra>

TIER 2 Submit: <https://www.epa.gov/epcra/tier2-submit-software>

EPA Region 8 Preparedness Program

We will increase EPA Region 8 preparedness through:

- Planning, training, and developing outreach relations with federal agencies, states, tribes, local organizations, and the regulated community.
- Assisting in the development of EPA Region 8 preparedness planning and response capabilities through the RSC, IMT, RRT, OPA, and RMP.
- Working with facilities to reduce accidents and spills through education, inspections, and enforcement.



To contact a member of our Region 8 EPA Preparedness Unit team, review our programs or view our organization chart, click this [link](#).

Region 8 SERC Contact Information

Colorado

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Wyoming

Mr. Jim Wamsley, Chair
Phone: 307-522-8001
jim_wamsley@rswy.net

RMP Region 8 Reading Room: (303) 312-6345

RMP Reporting Center: The Reporting Center can answer questions about software or installation problems. The RMP Reporting Center is available from 8:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., Monday - Friday: (703) 227-7650 or email RMPRC@epacdx.net.

RMP: <https://www.epa.gov/rmp> **EPCRA:** <https://www.epa.gov/epcra>

Emergency Response: <https://www.epa.gov/emergency-response>

[Lists of Lists](#) (Updated May 2024)

Questions? Call the Superfund, TRI, EPCRA, RMP, and Oil Information Center at (800) 424-9346 (Monday-Thursday).

To report an oil or chemical spill, call the National Response Center at (800) 424-8802.



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This newsletter provides information on the EPA Risk Management Program, EPCRA, SPCC/FRP (Facility Response Plan) and other issues relating to Accidental Release Prevention Requirements. The information should be used as a reference tool, not as a definitive source of compliance information. Compliance regulations are published in 40 CFR Part 68 for CAA section 112(r) Risk Management Program, 40 CFR Part 355/370 for

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