

CSEPP *update*

1ST QUARTER 2009

THE CHEMICAL STOCKPILE
EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS
PROGRAM

Pueblo Community Prepares for Annual Exercise

Participating Agencies

A.C.O.V.A
American Medical Response
American Red Cross
A.R.E.S
Colorado State Patrol
Parkview Hospital
Pueblo Behavioral Health Team
Pueblo City/County Health Dept
Pueblo Chemical Depot
Pueblo County Commissioners
Pueblo County Sheriff's Office
Pueblo Fire Department
Pueblo Memorial Airport
Pueblo Police Department
Pueblo County School Dist 70
Pueblo West Fire Department
Risk Communications Network
Rural Fire Department
St. Mary Corwin Hospital

It is that time of year again! The US Army Pueblo Chemical Depot, Chemical Stockpile Emergency Preparedness Program and, our First Response partners will come together on Wednesday, May 6th, to test the response and capabilities of the emergency agencies in the community. Federal evaluators will be on hand to observe and critique the response. While Depot employees exercise their procedures at the Pueblo Chemical Depot, off-post agencies will do the same. During the exercise, schools will again practice sheltering students. Law Enforcement will take the opportunity to manage traffic control points and crime scene response. Fire agencies throughout the county will demonstrate their ability to triage, treat, and transport people exposed to a hazardous chemical. In addition to First Responders having the ability



to practice, local volunteer agencies, hospitals, and 9-1-1 operators will also have their response evaluated.

Last year, the Pueblo Community was commended for their attention to victim mental health and their standout relationships with local businesses. This year's exercise will again be in the area of the Pueblo Memorial Airport. Expect to see increased response vehicle traffic in that area until around 2:00 pm that day.



Reminder!

**Pueblo CSEPP Exercise
Wednesday, May 6th!**

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Bureau Chief Mark Mears
CSEPP Program Manager

There is a new face in the local CSEPP community. Pueblo County Sheriff's Office Bureau Chief, Mark Mears, has been named the new Program Manager for the Pueblo CSEPP Site. Chief Mears has been with the Pueblo County Sheriff's Office for over 10 years and has been a volunteer fireman in the area for over 6 years. Previously the Captain of the Pueblo County Detention Facility, he was appointed by Sheriff Kirk Taylor to oversee the Emergency Services Bureau (ESB). The ESB is responsible for the CSEP Program, the Office of Emergency Management, the Communications Center, and the Pueblo Emergency Response Teams.

CSEPP Update would like to welcome Chief Mark Mears and his new staff to Pueblo Emergency Management and to CSEPP!

How's Your Neighbor?

Being neighborly isn't something inside your 72-Hour Kit, it is inside you!

Image this. Several days of high temperatures in our county have led to real concern on the part of city and county officials. People are calling it a heat wave. Air conditioner usage in the city and county has led to power outages in some areas. There are reports that several people are coming down with medical symptoms including: headache,

nausea, vomiting, convulsions, dizziness, and fainting. Officials are telling people to stay hydrated, avoid strenuous outdoor activity, and if they have to go outside, to try to stay in the shade.



You and your family are ready. You have your 72-Hour Kit in the living room. It has a battery-powered radio, canned food, fresh water, and many other supplies you will probably need to get through the next couple of days. You have called your

out-of-town contact and told them your family is safe and you will keep them updated. Now, you are waiting for the situation to pass.

The question emergency planners are encouraging you to ask yourself is this. How's your neighbor? Are there elderly or special needs individuals in your community that may not be as well prepared as you? Do they have a phone line that functions even when the power is out so that, if they need to call 9-1-1 for help, they can? The temperature has been over 90 degrees for several days, have you seen your neighbor? When you do visit them, are they showing the symptoms of heat stroke?

We bring in each others newspaper and feed each others dogs but when our neighbors *really* need us, we may forget them. Look around your community. Is there someone you feel may need extra help if this time comes? If so, get to know each other. One day, that relationship may save a life.

CSEPP

update

Taking Shelter

When there is an emergency outside, officials may ask you to go inside where it is safer. If the decision is made to tell citizens to “Shelter-In-Place” during a hazardous material accident, the recommended actions are very specific. They are listed below.

1. Go Inside.
2. Turn off ventilation systems.
3. Close windows and doors.
4. Get your 72-Hr Kit.
5. Go to an interior room.
6. Turn on the radio.
7. Seal off any windows and the door.
8. Listen for the “exit shelter.”
9. Vent House.

It is important that you take the protective actions to protect yourself and trust the schools to protect your child. As soon as the “exit shelter” instruction is given, the school district will tell you when and where to pick up your child.

Kids Page

Help these animals get safely inside their houses by drawing a line from them to their home!



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Emergency Services Bureau
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Pueblo, CO 81003-2995

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US POSTAGE
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CSEPP, the Chemical Stockpile Emergency Preparedness Program, is a federally funded program designed to enhance emergency preparedness efforts of the communities located near the seven U.S. chemical weapons storage locations. Pueblo is one of those sites.

contact us

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