What are CSEPP Planning & Response Zones?

One important function of emergency planning is to identify the areas that could possibly be affected from different types of emergencies.

The communities surrounding the US Army Pueblo Chemical Depot (PCD) are divided into planning and response areas called the Immediate Response Zone (IRZ) and Protective Action Zone (PAZ). In Pueblo, these two zones are further divided into eight directional areas that form a type of “pinwheel” (SEE MAP). These zones were developed to plan for the unlikely event of an accident involving the stored chemical weapons at PCD.

What is the IRZ?

The Immediate Response Zone (IRZ) is identified as the area immediately surrounding the US Army Pueblo Chemical Depot. It is called the Immediate Response Zone because in a large chemical event, this zone may need the most immediate attention.

The IRZ’s radius extends about four to nine miles from the location of the chemical stockpile. The communities in this area include North Avondale, Avondale, Boone and parts of the Transportation Technology Center Incorporated.

What is the PAZ?

The Protective Action Zone (PAZ) is the area immediately surrounding the IRZ boundary. The PAZ may be affected by a large chemical event at the Pueblo Chemical Depot, however people in the PAZ would have more time to respond and take protective actions.

The PAZ’s radius extends about three to seven miles past the boundaries of the IRZ. The communities in this area include Vineland, Baxter, the Pueblo Airport Industrial Park, and the remainder of the Transportation Technology Center Incorporated.

The greater City of Pueblo is not included in either Emergency Response Zone.

If you live or work in the IRZ or PAZ you should be prepared to respond to a chemical emergency. In addition you may need to be ready to respond to other types of emergencies including tornadoes, thunder or hailstorms, or hazardous material accidents.