

Did You Know...

- Wisconsin has over 6,000 facilities that must report hazardous chemicals under EPCRA.
- There are over 2,500 facilities that are required to submit information on extremely hazardous chemicals.
- There were 296 reported hazardous materials incidents in Wisconsin in 2013 that caused \$490,000 in damages.

What Is EPCRA?

The Emergency Planning and Community Right to Know Act (EPCRA) is a federal requirement for businesses that store hazardous materials to report the quantities of those materials. Those reports are then used by emergency management officials and emergency responders for emergency preparedness.

About WEM

WEM coordinates effective disaster response and recovery efforts in support of local governments. Through planning, training, and exercising, we prepare ourselves, our citizens, and response personnel to minimize the loss of life and property.



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EPCRA

Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act



Information for the Public

History

In 1984, a chemical release from a pesticide plant in Bhopal, India killed over 3,000 people. This incident showed the need for emergency planning in the event of an accidental chemical release.

In 1986, Congress created EPCRA to improve local emergency planning for accidental chemical releases and provide the public and local governments with information concerning potential chemical hazards present in their communities.



What This Means...

Businesses must report large quantities of hazardous materials to local and state emergency management, as well as the local fire department.

Emergency management officials develop and practice emergency response plans for facilities with extremely hazardous substances in case of a chemical spill.



Local emergency responders use the chemical information and emergency plans to keep their training up-to-date with the chemicals that are present in their communities.

What Should You Do...

- To find out what chemicals are stored in your community, contact your county or tribal emergency management office.
- For a list of county emergency managers, go to **emergencymanagement.wi.gov**.
- Make an emergency supply kit so you have what you need if you need to shelter in place.
- Have a plan in case you need to evacuate, including a meeting place for your family if you get separated.
- For more information on making an emergency kit or creating a plan go to **readywisconsin.wi.gov**.

