



CHEMICAL STOCKPILE EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS PROGRAM

A ready public set to protect itself in an emergency.

Umatilla
Public Information
Group

Jodi Florence
Umatilla County
Emergency
Management
541-966-3703
jodi.florence@ucem.us

Maureen Roxbury
Morrow County
Emergency
Management
541-922-1162
maureen@csepp.org

Steve Sautter
Benton County
Emergency
Management
509-628-2600
s.sautter@bces.wa.gov

Mark Clemens
Washington State
Emergency
Management
253-512-7006
m.clemens@emd.wa.gov

Jim Hackett
Umatilla Chemical
Depot
541-564-5418
james.s.hackett@us.army.mil

Cheryl Seigal
Layman
Federal Emergency
Management Agency
541-310-8136
cheryl.seigal@iem.com

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**IMMEDIATE RELEASE and
MEDIA OPPORTUNITY**

Annual emergency preparedness drill slated April 21

Emergency management officials in Umatilla, Morrow, and Benton counties, the states of Washington and Oregon and the Army's Umatilla Chemical Depot will hold an annual Chemical Stockpile Emergency Preparedness Program drill Tuesday, April 21.

The drill will start after 5 p.m., and test sirens will be set off in local communities around the depot.

Morrow and Umatilla counties in Oregon will sound their public sirens and alert people through test exercise messages via tone alert radios and highway reader board messages, as well as providing Emergency Alert System messages to local radio and television stations. Highway advisory radio systems will also be used.

Residents are urged to pay attention to the sirens and the test exercise messages as part of their overall emergency preparedness. The public will hear Westminster chimes in the Oregon counties of Umatilla and Morrow, and in Benton County, Wash. when the nighttime exercise begins. No schools will be involved in the drill. Out-of-sequence drills were conducted in Umatilla County schools last fall. First responders in the CSEPP program will be involved in the evening drill.

The Joint Information Center, located on the top floor of the Umatilla County Criminal Justice Building, across from the Pendleton airport off I-84, Exit 207, will be activated to respond to simulated public and media phone calls.

Federal, state and other evaluators will observe the drill and provide their comments on how the performance of the exercise players could be improved.

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**SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS FOR MEDIA
REPRESENTATIVES**

Media representatives may view portions of the exercise taking place with assistance from the Army and Federal Emergency Management Agency escorts, starting at the main gate of Umatilla Chemical Depot, off Exit 177, I-84, just west of Hermiston, Ore., starting at 4 p.m. Media representatives

will receive a briefing on the exercise scenario to take place and visit the depot Operations Center. Contact Jim Hackett, Umatilla Chemical Depot, at (541) 564-5418 by Thursday noon, April 16, or Cheryl Seigal Layman, FEMA, at (541) 310-8136 to make arrangements to cover the event.