

The LEPC is tasked to "establish rules, give public notice of its activities, establish written guidelines for handling public requests for information, and develop an emergency response plan" to deal with hazardous materials that exist in Ellsworth County, including their use, storage, processing or transportation.

In order to accomplish this task, the LEPC must:

- Identify facilities which are subject to the requirements of Title III within Ellsworth County and likely transportation routes of extremely hazardous substances. Develop methods and guidelines which facility owners and operators and local emergency personnel will follow in response to releases of hazardous materials. Insure the designation of a community emergency response coordinator and facility emergency coordinators.
- Establish reliable, effective and timely guidelines to notify emergency coordinators and first responders that a release has occurred.
- Develop methods for determining a release and the area or population likely to be affected.
- Compile a description of emergency equipment, and facilities in the community and the persons responsible for these facilities and equipment.
- Prepare evacuation plans including traffic routes and provisions.
- Facilitate development of training programs including scheduling for training of local responders. Develop methods and schedules for exercising the emergency plan from LEPC By-Laws.

If needing information on Tier II reportable chemicals within Ellsworth County, please contact Fire Chief Bob Kepka. Chief Kepka holds the LEPC position of Information Coordinator and as such can provide this information. Requests can be made via the City of Ellsworth, 785-472-5566.

The LEPC is composed of ordinary citizens and representatives from local governments, county emergency management, fire departments, health and emergency medical agencies, hospital, public communication media, community (service/civil) groups, industry, and general citizens. As a resident of the community, you are welcome to attend our meetings. The Ellsworth County LEPC invites everyone to attend a meeting and become better acquainted. **Meetings are held the fourth Thursday of each month January through October in the lower level of the Ellsworth Courthouse at 7:00 pm. Emergency Support Function #8 (Mass Care / Medical Response) are held in conjunction with the LEPC meetings in August and January beginning at 6:00 pm.**