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Region 6 LEPC Update

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In celebration of National Fire Prevention Week, and National Children's Health Month, we bring you information on the 16th annual HOTZONE Conference, and resources from EPA and the new Southwest Center for Pediatric Environmental Health! -- Steve and Hilary

16th Annual HOTZONE Conference in Houston, TX



Training for Responders by Responders

Dates: October 22-25, 2015
Registration Fee: \$200 for all 4 days
**Location: Crown Plaza Hotel Reliant Park
Houston, TX**
Website: <http://www.hotzone.org>



Training for Responders by Responders

The HOTZONE Conference Continues in its 16th Year to Bring Top-Notch Training for Responders, by Responders.

This is a great opportunity for first responders and emergency planners throughout Region 6 to receive hands-on and classroom training from some of the most knowledgeable instructors from across the nation.

8-Hour Pre-Conference Workshops – 22 October 2015

CAMEO Training / Refresher

HAZMAT Tactical Analysis Card Course

Tactical Chemistry for Emergency Responders

Field ID Laboratory (Heinz 5-Step Method)

HAZMAT Officer Competency Lab

HazMat Medic/NFPA 473 In-Practice

Bush Airport ARFF HazMat Tour

Houston Petrochemical/Industrial Marine Tour

Hands-on Scenario Based Training

The Many Faces of Emergency Management

Houston Fire Department Incident Command Simulator

HOTZONE Conference Sessions – 23-24 October 2015

LEPC - LEPC 101/201	Pyrophoric Materials - What Are they?
Strap It On, Plug It Up and Let's Get Dirty	Energy Releasing Materials – The Things That Can Kill You
Advances in Decontamination – Train As You Operate	Crude by Rail Emergency Response
Guide to Flash Fire Protective Clothing	The ABCs of Rad
TPH Field Test Kits – Hydrocarbons in Water and Soil	Research – What To Do When Things Don't Work Out
Compressed Gas Emergency Response Fundamentals	HazMatIQ Tactics - Propane (DOT Cylinders)
Using a Risk-based Approach to WMD Incidents	The New Wild, Wild West: Bath Salts, Spice, and Synthetics
Briefing the Boss	Joint Response Procedures for Suspicious Package Incidents
Commodity Flow Study? – We have an App for That!	MARPLOT 5.x - Arcview meets Google Earth
Bread And Butter Hazmat Exercises	Facility Emergency Response: the Local – Industrial Interface
Austin Wide Area Radiation Experiment (AWARE)	PEAC-WMD Decision Support Software
Chemical Suicides - The HazMat Perspective,	Large-Scale Industrial Chemical Processes
HazMatIQ: Above the Line, Below the Line	T6 – Anhydrous Ammonia - Taming The Tiger Top Ten Tips
Advanced Diagnosis of HazMat Patients	LEPC – A Preparedness Roundtable
Hazmat History and How We Got the Regulations	HazMat 101 Essentials
E-Plan for First Responders	Collecting Those Not-So White Powder Samples
HazMat Professional Competency	Why Are The ERG and Dispersion Model Hazard Predictions WRONG?
EPCRA Tier 2 Reports: Not Just Another Piece of Paper	HazMat Appetizers (Apps)
Pick Your Poison	Closing the Gaps
Highway Cargo Tanks	Grounding & Bonding – What is it? Why do it and How to do it
Advanced Methodologies – Common Hazmat Detection Equipment	National Weather Service – Support for Incidents and Emergencies
What Could Possibly Go wrong?	Basic Gas Detection
The Challenging Threesome (Ammonia, Chlorine, Propane)	Commercial Explosives - R&I, Transport and Response
UAVs – Applicable Laws, Operations, and Applications	Old School Hazmat Tech vs New School Hazmat Tech
Research: So Much to Do So Little Time 5.0	Indicating Papers - What Are They, How Do They Work, and What Don't They Do....
Use of On-Line Databases to Select Chemical PPE	Meth Labs- Now What?

Southwest Center for Pediatric Environmental Health

 TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY
HEALTH SCIENCES CENTER
EL PASO



Courtesy of Dr. Stormy Monks, TTU HSC El Paso, TX

This year the American College of Medical Toxicology (ACMT) awarded Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center (TTUHSC) El Paso funding to establish and manage the Federal Region 6 Pediatric Environmental Health Specialty Unit (PEHSU) named the Southwest Center for Pediatric Environmental Health (SWCPEH).

The US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) provides funding to the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR) under an inter-agency agreement. ATSDR contracts with the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP: PEHSU-East) and the American College of Medical Toxicology (ACMT: PEHSU-West) for further distribution to PEHSU units.

Pediatric Environmental Health Specialty Units (PEHSUs) are a network of experts in children's environmental health dedicated to working together to decrease environmental health hazards and their effect on children and women and men of childbearing age.

The newly founded Southwest Center for Pediatric Environmental Health (SWCPEH) is one of 10 PEHSUs, and serves the states of Texas, Arkansas, Louisiana, Oklahoma, and New Mexico, with consultants in all 5 states.

The Mission of the Overall PEHSU Program is To:

- Reduce environmental health threats to children.
- Expand and enhance access to pediatric environmental medicine expertise.
- Strengthen pediatric environmental medicine and public health prevention capacity through education and expanded collaborative relationships with medical schools, residency programs, schools of nursing and other allied health programs, and schools of public health.
- Deliver relevant education and consultative services to assist in the care of pediatric patients and the education of their families and health care providers in addressing environmental health threats to children.



Our Goals Are:

1. To assure environmental exposure concerns of children and their families are appropriately addressed.
2. Develop a staff complement with expertise in pediatrics, Occupational and Environmental Medicine (OEM), medical toxicology, and environmental health education.
3. Maintain academic affiliations and expand collaborations.
4. Provide a setting for Pediatric Environmental Medicine Fellowships, clinical rotations or other environmental medicine training programs.
5. Assist community self-empowerment and capacity development.
6. Assist with local public health infrastructure development and capacity building in all areas of PEH, including biochemical terrorism and disaster preparedness.
7. Provide consultation and information on PEH concerns to health care professionals, public health officials, and to parents and caregivers regarding environmental exposures and possible health effects through an established toll-free telephone line.
8. Provide community education and outreach in ways that address the need to raise awareness about environmental conditions that may harm children; preventing or reducing harmful environmental exposures in everyday situations; and practical advice on helping children cope and recover during and after environmentally-related crises impacting the health of children.

The primary means of accomplishing this mission and goals of the PEHSU include education, consultation, referral, advocacy, research, and networking.

How do we educate public health professionals regarding environmental health issues impacting children?

- Telephone consultation on pediatric environmental health issues
- Educational conferences and programs for pediatricians, family practice physicians, nursing professionals and environmental health professionals using distance learning networks and live presentations at regional health professions meetings
- A web page providing links to pediatric environmental health resources



What Educational Services are Offered to the Public?

- Telephone consultation on pediatric environmental health issues of concern to parents, guardians, or care givers
- Consultation with your local health care provider regarding management of environmental health issues impacting your child
- Training opportunities to local, state and regional health departments poison centers, environmental agencies, and community and faith-based groups
- Participate in limited community-based efforts to educate children directly
- Referrals to local pediatricians or to our pediatric clinic

What is Our Medical Approach?

Empowering the Caregiver

- Consult with the local caregiver as opposed to assuming care for the patient.
- Equip the caregiver with the tools to evaluate environmental concerns through case based instruction providing skills that can be used in perpetuity Maintain the relationship between primary provider and the individual.
- Equip the caregiver to address similar concerns among others in the community, family, or physician patient population



Contact Information:

The Southwest Center for Pediatric Environmental Health

Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center El Paso
Department of Emergency Medicine
Division of Medical Toxicology

Call Us Toll-Free!

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October is Children's Health Month!



Throughout the month of October the Environmental Protection Agency celebrates **Children's Health Month**. During this special emphasis month, EPA encourages organizations around the nation to hold special events, post blogs, or host training activities to raise awareness about children's unique vulnerabilities.

In fact, a presidential order was issued in 1997 directing all Federal agencies to consider children's health in all their actions. Executive Order 13045 states,

A growing body of scientific knowledge demonstrates that children may suffer disproportionately from environmental health risks and safety risks. These risks arise because: children's neurological, immunological, digestive, and other bodily systems are still developing; children eat more food, drink more fluids, and breathe more air in proportion to their body weight than adults; children's size and weight may diminish their protection from standard safety features; and children's behavior patterns may make them more susceptible to accidents because they are less able to protect themselves.

Link to the EO 13045 <http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-1997-04-23/pdf/97-10695.pdf>

On the front lines of protecting children in the community, you may have seen first-hand the harmful effects of chemical exposures on children's health. As you have read in previous editions of the *LEPC Update* (Volume 26, No. 5, December 2013, Volume 28, No. 4, August 2015) accidents occur in schools where children are in contact with mercury spills or other chemical exposures. Still many accidents occur in homes or child care facilities. Chemicals found in school science labs, household cleaners or home use pesticides can cause serious injury or death to children if used improperly. In addition to these types of exposures, EPA has published tips on actions you can take to protect kids from other environmental risks such as:

- *Keep pesticides and other toxic chemicals away from children*
- *Protect children from chemical poisoning*
- *Help children breathe easier*
- *Protect children from lead poisoning*
- *Protect children from carbon monoxide poisoning*
- *Protection children from contaminated fish and polluted water*
- *Safeguard children from high levels of radon*
- *Protect children from too much sun*
- *Keep children and mercury apart*
- *Promote healthier communities*

<http://www2.epa.gov/children/what-you-can-do-protect-children-environmental-risks>

This comprehensive site provides links to dozens of pertinent web pages on each one of these topics. With Children's Health Month upon us, please help spread the word about protecting kids and ensuring a safer community--where kids live, learn, and play.

Learn more about children's health protection by linking to <http://www.epa.gov/epahome/children.htm>



Homographs are words of like spelling but with more than one meaning. A homograph that is also pronounced differently is a heteronym. You think English is easy??

- 1) The bandage was wound around the wound.
- 2) The farm was used to produce produce.
- 3) The dump was so full that it had to refuse more refuse.
- 4) He could lead if he would get the lead out.
- 6) The soldier decided to desert his dessert in the desert.
- 7) Since there is no time like the present, he thought it was time to present the present.
- 8) A bass was painted on the head of the bass drum.
- 9) When shot at, the dove dove into the bushes.
- 10) I did not object to the object.
- 11) There was a row among the oarsmen about how to row.
- 13) They were too close to the door to close it.
- 14) The buck does funny things when the does are present.
- 15) A seamstress and a sewer fell down into a sewer line.
- 16) To help with planting, the farmer taught his sow to sow.
- 17) The wind was too strong to wind the sail.
- 18) Upon seeing the tear in the painting I shed a tear.
- 19) I had to subject the subject to a series of tests.
- 20) How can I intimate this to my most intimate friend?

Let's face it - English is a crazy language.

There is no egg in eggplant, nor ham in hamburger; neither apple nor pine in pineapple. English muffins weren't invented in England or French fries in France. Sweetmeats are candies while sweetbreads, which aren't sweet, are meat.

We take English for granted. But if we explore its paradoxes, we find that quicksand can work slowly, boxing rings are square and a guinea pig is neither from Guinea nor is it a pig. And why is it that writers write but fingers don't fing, grocers don't groce and hammers don't ham? If the plural of tooth is teeth, why isn't the plural of booth, beeth? One goose, 2 geese. So one moose, 2 meese? One index, 2 indices?

Doesn't it seem crazy that you can make amends but not one amend? If you have a bunch of odds and ends and get rid of all but one of them, what do you call it? If teachers taught, why didn't preachers praught? If

a vegetarian eats vegetables, what does a humanitarian eat? In what language do people recite at a play and play at a recital? Ship by truck and send cargo by ship? Have noses that run and feet that smell? How can a slim chance and a fat chance be the same, while a wise man and a wise guy are opposites?

You have to marvel at the uniqueness of a language in which your house can burn up as it burns down, in which you fill in a form by filling it out and in which, an alarm goes off by going on. English was invented by people, not computers, and it reflects the creativity of the human race, which, of course, is not a race at all. That is why, when the stars are out, they are visible, but when the lights are out, they are invisible.

PS. - Why doesn't 'Buick' rhyme with 'quick'?

You lovers of the English language might enjoy this.

There is a two-letter word that perhaps has more meanings than any other two-letter word, and that is 'UP.' It's easy to understand UP, meaning toward the sky or at the top of the list, but when we awaken in the morning, why do we wake UP? At a meeting, why does a topic come UP? Why do we speak UP and why are the officers UP for election and why is it UP to the secretary to write UP a report? We call UP our friends.

And we use it to brighten UP a room, polish UP the silver; we warm UP the leftovers and clean UP the kitchen. We lock UP the house and some guys fix UP the old car. At other times the little word has real special meaning. People stir UP trouble, line UP for tickets, work UP an appetite, and think UP excuses. To be dressed is one thing, but to be dressed UP is special. A drain must be opened UP because it is stopped UP. We open UP a store in the morning but we close it UP at night. We seem to be pretty mixed UP about UP!

To be knowledgeable about the proper uses of UP, look the word UP in the dictionary. In a desk-sized dictionary, it takes UP almost 1/4th of the page and can add UP to about thirty definitions. If you are UP to it, you might try building UP a list of the many ways UP is used. It will take UP a lot of your time, but if you don't give UP, you may wind UP with a hundred or more. When it threatens to rain, we say it is clouding UP. When the sun comes out we say it is clearing UP. When it rains, it wets the earth and often messes things UP. When it doesn't rain for a while, things dry UP. One could go on and on, but I'll wrap it UP, for now my time is UP, so..... [no offense intended] it is time to shut UP!

Local Government Reimbursement Success Stories

EPA Headquarters has evaluated several applications submitted under the Local Governments Reimbursement Program. Based on the evaluation:

- Athens, Texas, is eligible for an award of \$ 21,962.17 for costs incurred responding to a hazardous substance release on May 29, 2014
- Livingston Parish, Louisiana, is eligible for an award of \$ 3,525.00 for costs incurred responding to drug labs between July, 2014 and May, 2015
- Livingston Parish, Louisiana, is eligible for an award of \$ 18,025.00 for costs incurred responding to drug labs between January, 2013, and June, 2014

State EPCRA / LEPC Coordinators and SERC Contacts

Arkansas	Kenny Harmon	501-683-6700	kenny.harmon@adem.arkansas.gov
Louisiana	Gene Dunegan	225-925-6113	gene.dunegan@dps.la.gov
New Mexico	Henry Jolly	505-476-6240	henry.jolly@state.nm.us
Oklahoma	Tom Bergman Bonnie McKelvey	405-702-1013 405-521-2481	tom.bergman@deq.ok.gov bonnie.mckelvey@oem.ok.gov
Texas	Bernardine Zimmerman Gabriela Stermolle	800-452-2791 512-424-5989	Bernardine.zimmerman@tceq.texas.gov gabriela.stermolle@dps.texas.gov

Emergency Response Numbers

Arkansas Dept. of Emergency Management	800-322-4012
Louisiana State Police	877-925-6595
New Mexico State Police	505-827-9126
Oklahoma Dept. of Environmental Quality	800-522-0206
Texas Environmental Hotline	800-832-8224
National Response Center	800-424-8802
EPA Region 6	866-372-7745
CHEMTREC	800-424-9300



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