

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 3

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West Virginia LEPC Newsletter

Local Emergency Planning Committee



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Hello

First, we would like to apologize for not putting out a June issue. We have been very busy and we just did not have the time.

In this issue, we would like to highlight the great work the counties have been doing in exercises. We have facilitated and documented three exercises since the spring.

Also, we would like to give you information on the different types of exercises that you can use to meet your requirement of having four drills a year.

As always, please feel free to contact us with ideas or comments for this newsletter.

Sincerely,

Bob Kelly
Eduardo Rovira
Debbie Lindsey

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Upcoming Event/Announcement



Homeland
Security

U.S. Department of Homeland Security Office of Infrastructure Protection

YOU DON'T WANT TO MISS THIS!

The Active Shooter Awareness Virtual Roundtable

Active shooters engage in killing or attempting to kill innocent and unsuspecting people in both private and public areas. In many cases, there is no pattern or method to the selection of victims by an active shooter, and these situations are unpredictable and evolve quickly.

To help you prepare for the possibility of an active shooter incident, the *Active Shooter Awareness Virtual Roundtable* will raise awareness of common triggers and characteristics of active shooters, and help you understand how to prepare for potential incidents.

This free, online interactive roundtable will include video, commentary by behavioral and security experts, and a question-and-answer session. This roundtable will better prepare you to deal with an active shooter situation and to recognize dangerous behavior before it turns deadly.



WHEN:

presented live Tuesday, September 27, 2011

TIME:

2:00 – 3:30 pm (EDT)

WHO SHOULD ATTEND:

Security staff, private sector owners and operators, government agencies and organizations, and employees from all industries

MODERATOR:

Andrea Schultz, Sector-Specific Agency Executive Management Office (SSA EMO), DHS

PANELISTS:

Samuel Mayhugh, Ph.D., Founder, Office of the President, Integrated Behavioral Health

Jim McGinty, Vice President of Training and Safety, Covenant Security Services

SIGN UP TODAY

Log onto <http://www.visualwebcaster.com/event.asp?id=81820> and register to participate in this important, interactive virtual roundtable.

A limited number of phone lines will be available for participants, so please plan to listen online using either your computer's speakers or headphones.

Registration closes September 23, 2011

For more information, contact activeshooterawareness@dhs.gov



In the News

EPA Administrator Announces \$76 Million to Clean Up Contaminated Sites and Revitalize Communities

EPA brownfields investments protect health and environment, create jobs and promote economic re-development nationwide

LANSING - U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Administrator Lisa P. Jackson announced more than \$76 million in new investments across the country that will redevelop contaminated properties, boost local economies and help create jobs while protecting public health. EPA's brownfields grants are used to assess and clean up abandoned industrial and commercial properties like deserted gas stations or closed smelters. There are an estimated 450,000 abandoned and contaminated waste sites in America. These investments help leverage redevelopment, promote economic growth and lead to job creation. Since its inception, EPA's brownfields investments have leveraged more than \$16.3 billion in cleanup and redevelopment funding from a variety of public and private sources and have resulted in approximately 70,000 jobs. Brownfields grants also target under-served and economically disadvantaged neighborhoods – places where environmental cleanups and new jobs are most needed.

"Revitalizing our communities is vital to our health and the health of our local economies," EPA Administrator Lisa P. Jackson said. "The grants we're awarding to communities across America will support projects that will help create thousands of jobs and make our communities cleaner, healthier and more prosperous places to raise a family and start a business. They're part of our overall effort to clean up communities and put our nation on the path to a sustainable future."

Administrator Jackson announced that seven communities in Michigan this year will receive a total of \$2.9 million. Mayor Virg Bernero of Lansing and other federal, state and local officials joined Administrator Jackson at the event in Lansing.

"For a struggling auto community at the epicenter of the national economic crisis, we depend on the power of brownfields funding to energize Lansing's local economy and create jobs," said Mayor Virg Bernero. "With the help of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, who played a key role in an extraordinary public-private partnership, we have transformed an old, abandoned power plant on our downtown riverfront into a new engine of prosperity and job growth for Michigan. More than 1,500 people spent 800,000 work-hours to complete this massive project, and another thousand permanent jobs will be retained and created in Lansing over the next few years. With the additional funds announced today, we will be able to replicate this success and put even more of our citizens back to work."

EPA issued 214 grants through the Brownfields Assessment, Revolving Loan Fund, and

Cleanup Grants programs that will go to 40 states and three tribes across the country.

Highlights of the projects planned by grant recipients include:

- The Redevelopment Authority of the City of Milwaukee will use cleanup grant funding to transform a former contaminated property into a modern business park with residential and retail amenities, creating more than 800 jobs.
- Springfield, Missouri will use cleanup grant funding to transform a vacant, contaminated former rail yard into a natural wetland open space with greenway trails. This project will leverage more than \$6 million in cleanup and redevelopment funding.
- Nassau County, N.Y. will use funds to cleanup waterfront property and pave the way for a new hotel complex, affordable housing units, a waterfront park, restaurant and retail space, and the county's first commuter ferry. The redevelopment will result in the creation of more than 7,700 new jobs.
- The Illinois EPA will issue a loan to the United Neighborhood Organization (UNO), a Chicago Hispanic community-based organization that builds and operates charter schools in disadvantaged neighborhoods. UNO plans to remediate a former industrial property and build an energy efficient elementary school for 575 students.

In 2002, the brownfields law expanded the definition of what is considered a brownfield, so communities may now focus on mine-scarred lands, sites contaminated by petroleum, or sites contaminated as a result of manufacturing and distribution of illegal drugs (e.g. meth labs).

More information on the FY2011 grant recipients by state:

http://www.epa.gov/brownfields/pilot_grants.htm

More information on EPA's brownfields program: <http://www.epa.gov/brownfields/>

More information on brownfields success stories: <http://www.epa.gov/brownfields/success/index.htm>

Actualities (sound bites): <http://www.epa.gov/adminweb/multimedia/newscontent/2011-6-6-0a/>

Note: If a link above doesn't work, please copy and paste the URL into a browser.

Spill Prevention, Control and Countermeasure Program (SPCC)

EPA's Oil Spill Prevention, Control and Countermeasure (SPCC) program requires farms and other regulated facilities to prepare a SPCC Plan to prevent oil spills into U.S. waters. Farms in operation on or before Aug. 16, 2002, must maintain or amend their existing plan by Nov. 10, 2011. Any farm that began operation after Aug. 16, 2002, but before Nov. 10, 2011, must prepare and use a plan on or before Nov. 10, 2011.

The SPCC program applies to a farm which:

- Stores, transfers, uses or consumes oil or oil products, such as diesel fuel, gasoline, lube oil, hydraulic fluid, adjuvant oil, crop oil, vegetable oil or animal fat; and
- Stores more than 1,320 U.S. gallons in aboveground containers larger than 55 gallons or stores more than 42,000 U.S. gallons in completely buried containers; and
- Could reasonably be expected to discharge oil to waters of the U.S. or adjoining shorelines, such as interstate waters, and intrastate lakes, rivers and streams.

SPCC plans include measures such as using suitable containers, identifying contractors to clean up an oil spill, secondary containment for spills and periodic inspections of pipes and containers.

Many farmers will need to have their plan certified by a Professional Engineer. However, a farmer may be eligible to self-certify his plan if the farm has a total oil storage capacity between 1,320 and 10,000 gallons in aboveground containers with no single container larger than 5,000 gallons and the farm has a good spill history.

More information is on the NCC's web site at www.cotton.org/tech/safety/oilsp.cfm.

In the Spotlight



Interoperable Multi-Agency Disaster (IOMAD) Drill in Glenville, WV

On May 22, 2011, at 2pm, a 911 call was made to report a fire in the Pickens Hall dormitory at the Glenville State College. The caller reported hearing an explosion, smelling smoke and there were two men with guns lying on the ground outside the dorm.

This was an exercise put together by the fire chief, police chief, and other agencies of the Glenville, WV LEPC. The overall objective of the unannounced drill was to test the response actions of the Glenville Fire/Police departments, Emergency Management Services and 911 services; in using the Incident Command System (ICS) utilizing a Unified Command approach to establish and maintain multi-agency jurisdictional communications.

Upon arrival at the scene, responders soon found out that this was not your ordinary dormitory room fire. The fire



was started by two students who had a lab set up in their room to produce the drug methamphetamine "meth" for sale to drug dealers and students during spring break.

There were injuries and fatalities from the explosion and a fire that was out of

control trapping several students on the six floors of the building. Responders had multiple incidents happening simultaneously which needed immediate actions.

The first fire truck arrived on the scene within minutes and immediately assessed the situation resulting in an incident command being put into place. The Incident Commander took charge of assigning priorities and personnel. He called in for additional resources and took control of assigning tasks.

The police, working with the fire department, assisted with the apprehension of the suspects and securing the scene of the "meth" lab.



This exercise was unique because all rescues had to be done by ladder; as the stairwells were simulated to have been inaccessible. There were a total of fifteen victims throughout the dormitory who were affected by either smoke inhalation or chemical burns from the meth lab explosion. Firefighters had to go floor to floor and search each dorm room for victims.

The drill was evaluated by experienced evaluators from each participating agency. The U.S. Environmental

Protection Agency from Region 3 out of Philadelphia also participated by providing victims; props as well as videotaping the exercise to be used for future training.

Overall, the exercise was successful given the number of resources that responded to the incident. Participants received training and will be more prepared in the event of a “real” incident. Job Well Done, Glenville!!!!

On the “ROCs” Exercise



On May 4, 2011 the Beckley-Raleigh County Health Department, with support from seven neighboring county health departments, Fayette, Greenbrier, McDowell, Mercer, Monroe, Summers, and Wyoming, as well as the Beckley Fire Department, Raleigh County 911 Center, and the Southern Regional Jail;

participated in a functional exercise to assess the ability of first responders during a Weapons of Mass Destruction (WMD) incident involving biological terrorism. The exercise was called the Region One Collaboration (“On the ROCS”) and designed to test the ability of the agencies collaboration, communication and response actions.

The scenario was the release of an unknown white powder (possible Anthrax) at the Regional Jail located in Beckley, West Virginia. This caused a series of events that would demand action from the participating agencies to test their capabilities to respond to a WMD incident. The major exercise

objectives were demonstrated during exercise play and ultimately accomplished. This involved the coordination of eight county health departments and the set up of a Point of Dispensing (POD) medication to exposed victims. Through demonstration of these objectives, the exercise players successfully simulated an effective response.

The “On the ROCS” exercise incorporated many disciplines in an inclusive manner, and this contributed to the success of the exercise in assessing response capabilities and identifying areas where improvements can be made. Additionally, the exercise provided a training opportunity for numerous responders. Good Job!

“Just Another Day” Tabletop Exercise

On June 7, 2011, members of the Ono Fire Department, Cabell 911 Center, Emergency Management Services (EMS) county hospitals, and local police, FBI, SWAT and the Office of Emergency Services in Huntington, WV participated in a tabletop functional exercise facilitated by EPA.

The overall objective of exercise was to test and examine the usage of the Incident Command System (ICS) utilizing a Unified Command approach to

establish and maintain multi-agency and multi-jurisdictional communication in response to a pipe bomb and shooting spree incident from a group of students

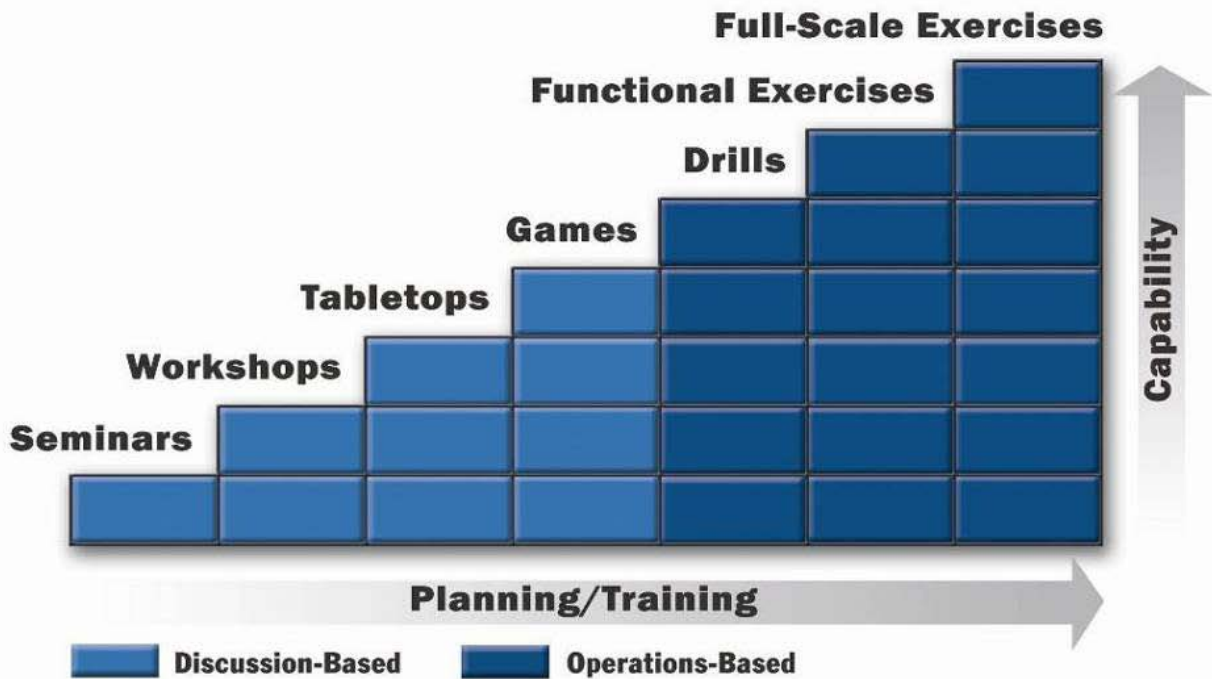


at the Cabell Midland High School. The school is one of the largest facilities with over two thousands students bused in from the surrounding counties.

The exercise was well received with over 30 participates and the Sheriff of Cabell County stating ***“you got us thinking about what resources are needed to handle a mass casualty incident with students.”***

Exercises – The Building Block Approach

It has been reported that counties will now have to do four (4) exercises each year to qualify for Homeland Security Grants. EPA recommends that counties use the building-block approach to achieve this goal. We have provided this approach below with an explanation of each.



Discussion-Based Exercises

Discussion-based exercises are normally used as a starting point in the building-block approach of escalating exercise complexity. Discussion-based exercises include seminars, workshops, tabletop exercises (TTXs), and games. These types of exercises typically highlight existing plans, policies, interagency/inter-jurisdictional agreements, and procedures. Discussion-based exercises are valuable tools for familiarizing agencies and personnel with current or expected capabilities of an entity. Discussion-based exercises typically focus on strategic, policy-oriented issues. Facilitators and/or presenters usually lead the discussion, keeping participants on track toward meeting exercise objectives.

Seminars

Seminars are informal discussions, unconstrained by real-time portrayal of events and led by a presenter. They are generally employed to orient participants to, or provide an overview of, authorities, strategies, plans, policies, procedures, protocols, response resources, and/or concepts and ideas. Seminars provide a good starting point for entities that are developing or making major changes to their plans and procedures.

Workshops

After seminars, workshops represent the second tier of exercises in the HSEEP building-block approach. They differ from seminars in two important respects: participant interaction is increased, and the focus is on achieving or building a product (such as a draft plan or policy). Workshops are often employed in conjunction with exercise development to determine objectives, develop scenarios, and define evaluation criteria.

A workshop may also be used to produce new standard operating procedures (SOPs), emergency operations plans (EOPs), Mutual Aid Agreements (MAAs), multi-year plans, or improvement plans. To be effective, workshops must be highly focused on a specific issue, and the desired outcome or goal must be clearly defined.

Tabletop Exercises

TTXs involve key personnel discussing hypothetical scenarios in an informal setting. This type of exercise can be used to assess plans, policies, and procedures or to assess the systems needed to guide the prevention of, response to, and recovery from a defined incident. TTXs typically are aimed at facilitating understanding of concepts, identifying strengths and shortfalls, and achieving changes in the approach to a particular situation. Participants are encouraged to discuss issues in depth and develop decisions through slow-paced problem solving, rather than the rapid, spontaneous decision making that occurs under actual or simulated emergency conditions. The effectiveness of a TTX is derived from the energetic involvement of participants and their assessment of recommended revisions to current policies, procedures, and plans.

TTX methods are divided into two categories: basic and advanced. In a basic TTX, the situation established by the scenario materials remains constant. It describes an event or emergency incident (i.e., scenario) and brings discussion participants up to the simulated present time. Players apply their knowledge and skills to a list of problems presented by the leader/moderator; problems are discussed as a group; and the leader generally agrees on and summarizes the resolutions.

In an advanced TTX, play revolves around delivery of pre-scripted messages to players that alter the original scenario. The exercise controller (or moderator) usually introduces problems one at a time in the form of a written message, simulated telephone call, videotape, or other means. Participants discuss the issues raised by the simulated problem, applying appropriate plans and procedures.

TTXs are effective for evaluating group problem solving, personnel contingencies, group message interpretation, information sharing, interagency coordination, and achievement of specific objectives.

Games

A game is a simulation of operations that often involves two or more teams and uses rules, data, and procedures to depict an actual or assumed real-life situation. The goal

of a game is to explore decision-making processes and the consequences of those decisions. A game does not require use of actual resources, and the sequence of events affects, and is in turn affected by, decisions made by players.

With the evolving complexity and sophistication of current simulations, opportunities to provide enhanced realism for game participants have increased. Computer-generated scenarios and simulations can provide a more realistic and time-sensitive method of introducing situations for analysis. Planner decisions can be input into realistic models to show the effects of decisions made during a game. Internet-based, multi-player games offer many additional benefits, such as saving money by reducing travel time, offering more frequent training opportunities, and taking less time away from primary functions. They also provide a collaborative environment that reflects realistic occurrences.

Operations-Based Exercises

Operations-based exercises represent the next level of the exercise cycle. They are used to validate the plans, policies, agreements, and procedures solidified in discussion-based exercises. Operations-based exercises include drills, functional exercises (FEs), and full-scale exercises (FSEs). They can clarify roles and responsibilities, identify gaps in resources needed to implement plans and procedures, and improve individual and team performance. Operations-based exercises are characterized by actual reaction to simulated intelligence; response to emergency conditions; mobilization of apparatus, resources, and/or networks; and commitment of personnel, usually over an extended period of time.

Drills

A drill is a coordinated, supervised activity usually employed to validate a single, specific operation or function in a single agency or organizational entity. Drills are commonly used to provide training on new equipment, develop or validate new policies or procedures, or practice and maintain current skills. Typical attributes of drills include:

- a narrow focus, measured against established standards;
- immediate feedback;
- a realistic environment; and
- performance in isolation.

Functional Exercises

An FE is designed to validate and evaluate individual capabilities, multiple functions, activities within a function, or interdependent groups of functions. Events are projected through an exercise scenario with event updates that drive activity at the management level. An FE simulates the reality of operations in a functional area by presenting complex and realistic problems that require rapid and effective responses by trained personnel in a highly stressful, time-constrained environment.

Response- and recovery-focused FEs generally concentrate on exercising the plans, policies, procedures, and staffs of the direction and control branches of Incident Command (IC), Unified Command (UC), and/or multi-agency coordination centers (e.g., EOCs). Movement of personnel and equipment is simulated.

Prevention-focused FEs usually concentrates on exercising the plans, policies, procedures, agreements, networks, and staffs of fusion centers or law enforcement agencies with counterterrorism missions. Adversary actions are largely simulated and delivered in the form of shared intelligence; however, some of these actions may be carried out by simulated adversaries, or Red Teams, in a separate but coordinated category of exercise play. See *HSEEP Volume V: Prevention Exercises* for more information on prevention-focused exercises.

Full-Scale Exercises

The FSE is the most complex type of exercise. FSEs are multi-agency, multi-jurisdictional, multi-organizational exercises that validate many facets of preparedness. They focus on implementing and analyzing the plans, policies, procedures, and cooperative agreements developed in discussion-based exercises and honed in previous, smaller, operations-based exercises. In FSEs, the reality of operations in multiple functional areas presents complex and realistic problems that require critical thinking, rapid problem solving, and effective responses by trained personnel. During FSEs, events are projected through a scripted exercise scenario with built-in flexibility to allow updates to drive activity. FSEs are conducted in real time, creating a stressful, time-constrained environment that closely mirrors real events. The level of support needed to conduct an FSE is greater than that needed during other types of exercises.

Response-focused FSEs include many first responders operating under the principles of the National Incident Management System (NIMS) to effectively and efficiently respond to an incident. Personnel and resources are mobilized and deployed to the scene where they conduct their activities as if a real incident had occurred (with minor exceptions). An FSE also may include functional play from participants not located at the exercise incident response site, such as multi-agency coordination centers (MACCs), EOCs, or hospitals.

Utility/Purpose		Type of Player Action	Duration	Real-Time Play?	Scope
Discussion-Based Exercises	Familiarize players with current plans, policies, agreements, and procedures; develop new plans, policies, agreements, and procedures	Notional; player actions are imaginary or hypothetical	Rarely exceeding 8 hours	No	Varies
Seminar	Provide overview of new or current plans, resources, strategies, concepts or ideas	N/A	2-5 hours	No	Multi- or Single-agency
Workshop	Achieve specific goal or build product (e.g., exercise objectives, SOPs, policies, plans)	N/A	3-8 hours	No	Multi-agency/ Single function
Tabletop Exercise (TTX)	Validate plans and procedures by utilizing a hypothetical scenario to drive participant discussions	Notional	4-8 hours	No	Multi-agency/ Multiple functions
Game	Explore decision-making process and examine consequences of those decisions	Notional	2-5 hours	No (though some simulations provide real- or near-real-time play)	Multi-agency/ Multiple functions
Operations-Based Exercises	Validate plans, policies, agreements, and procedures; clarify roles and responsibilities; identify resource gaps	Actual; player action mimics reaction, response, mobilization, and commitment of personnel and resources	May be hours, days, or weeks, depending on purpose, type, and scope of the exercise	Yes	Varies
Drill	Validate a single operation or function of an agency	Actual	2-4 hours	Yes	Single agency/ Single function
Functional Exercise (FE)	Evaluate capabilities, functions, plans, and staffs of Incident Command, Unified Command, intelligence centers, or other multi-agency coordination centers (e.g., EOCs)	Command staff actions are actual; movement of other personnel, equipment, or adversaries is simulated	4-8 hours or several days or weeks	Yes	Multiple functional areas/ Multiple functions
Full-Scale Exercise (FSE)	Validate plans, policies, procedures, and cooperative agreements developed in previous exercises through their actual implementation and execution during a simulated scenario; includes actual mobilization of resources, conduct of operations, and integrated elements of functional exercise play (e.g., EOCs, command posts)	Actual	One full day or several days or weeks	Yes	Multi-agency/ Multiple functions

LEPC News and Current Events

County	News / Event
Tyler	Planning a functional drill in October
Pleasant	
Wood	
Jackson	
Doddridge	
Ritchie	
Wirt	
Roane	
Calhoun	
Gilmer	
Braxton	
Mason	
Cabell/Wayne	
Mingo	
Kanawha/Putnam	
Lincoln	
Logan	
Boone	
Clay	
Webster	
Nicholas	
Fayette	
Raleigh	
Wyoming	
McDowell	
Mercer	
Summers	
Greenbrier	
Pocahontas	

NOTE: IF YOUR COUNTY IS BLANK, EITHER I MISSED YOUR MEETING NOTICE OR YOU HAVE NOT NOTIFIED ME.

PLEASE INCLUDE ME ON ALL EMAILS ADDRESSING YOUR LEPC MEETING SO I MAY HAVE AN ACCURATE RECORD.

Emergency Notification Numbers

Emergency Contact Information	Phone number	Email	website
EPA Region 3 Regional Response Center..... Spill Hotline	215 814 9016 800 424 8802		www.epa.gov/region03
EPA R3 Superfund Hotline	800 553 2509		www.epa.gov/reg3hwmd
EPA R3 On-Scene Coordinator Bob Kelly	215 266 7456	kelly.robertj@epa.gov	
EPA R3 On-Scene Coordinator Eduardo Rovira	214 814 3436	rovira.eduardo@epa.gov	
West Virginia Office of Environmental Enforcement	304 926 0470		www.dep.wv/WWE/ee
West Virginia Dept. of Environmental Protection	304 926 0440		www.dep.wv.gov
West Virginia Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Management	304 558 5380		www.wvdhsem.gov
EPA R3 On-Scene Coordinator Debbie Lindsey	304-234-0249	Lindsey.deborah@epa.gov	

EPA Superfund Cleanups

<u>SITE NAME</u>	<u>CITY / COUNTY</u>	<u>WEBSITE</u>
Fike Chemical, Inc. Site	Nitro, Kanawha	www.epa.gov/reg3hwmd/super/sites/WVD047989207/index.htm
Ravenswood PCE Site	Ravenswood, Jackson	www.epa.gov/reg3hwmd/super/sites/WVSN0305428/index.htm
Vienna Tetrachloroethene Site	Vienna, Wood	www.epa.gov/reg3hwmd/super/sites/WVD988798401/index.htm
West Virginia Ordnance	Pt Pleasant, Mason	www.epa.gov/reg3hwmd/super/sites/WVD980713036/index.htm
Freeman Lead School Site	Bramwell, WV	www.epaosc.org/freeman

