

Missouri Department of Natural Resources
Public Drinking Water Branch
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U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's Water Security Handbook:
Planning for and Responding to Drinking Water Contamination Threats and Incidents

This section provides information on resources that may help you in planning and responding to contamination threats and incidents. Information was current at the time of publication of this handbook.

Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR): ATSDR is a national public health agency that compiles information on contaminants and disease-causing agents. See their Web site at www.atsdr.cdc.gov/.

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC): See the CDC Web site at www.cdc.gov/ or call the CDC Hotline at 1-800-CDC-INFO. CDC compiles and tracks information on diseases, illness, outbreaks, contaminants, health effects, emergency preparedness and response, the national Laboratory Response Network (LRN), bioterrorism agents and other topics.

Compendium of Environmental Testing Laboratories: This laboratory compendium is a database of laboratories, developed by the EPA, which describes the analytical capabilities and capacities of labs nationwide. The database was designed to assist EPA and other users to identify qualified and appropriate laboratories to analyze chemical, biological and radiological agents. To register on-line or to obtain additional information, visit www.epa.gov/compendium. Access to the laboratory compendium is

controlled.

Department of Homeland Security (DHS): See the DHS Web site at www.dhs.gov/. The Web site provides extensive information concerning threats and posts threat levels and other bulletins. It also contains links to the National Incident Management System (NIMS), Homeland Security Information Networks for Critical Sectors or HSIN-CS, and information regarding the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA).

EPA National Homeland Security Research Center (NHSRC): The NHSRC provides technical information on methods, tools and technologies to assist in protecting public health and safety in the event of a terrorist attack. Examples include the EPA's Technology Testing and Evaluation Program (TTEP), the *Standardized Analytical Methods for Use During Homeland Security Events* and the *Security Information Collaborative – A Guide for Water Utilities*, described elsewhere in this section. See the EPA NHSRC Web site at www.epa.gov/nhsrc/.

EPA Safe Drinking Water Hotline: This hotline is a service of the Office of Ground Water and Drinking Water. It provides the general public, regulators, medical and water professionals, academia and media with information about drinking water and ground water programs authorized under the Safe Drinking Water Act. You can reach the hotline at 1-800-426-4791 or ask a question at the Hotline's Web site at www.epa.gov/safewater/

hotline.

EPA Water Security Division: See EPA's Web site at www.epa.gov/watersecurity for information on emergency response planning, training workshops, tools and useful links. The Web site includes links to information on Emergency Response Plans (ERPs), the *Response Protocol Toolbox*, this Handbook, and many other water security resources.

Emergency Response Plan Guidance for Small and Medium Systems, Emergency Response Plan Outline, and other emergency response planning documents can be downloaded from EPA's water security Web site at www.epa.gov/watersecurity or by calling EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791 or by sending an e-mail via the Hotline's Web site at www.epa.gov/safewater/hotline.

Emergency Response Tabletop Exercises for Drinking Water and Wastewater Systems CD: This CD, developed by EPA, contains tabletop exercises to help train water and wastewater utility workers in preparing and carrying out emergency response plans. The exercises provided on the CD can help strengthen relationships between a water supplier and their emergency response team (e.g., health officials, laboratories, fire, police, emergency medical services, and local, state and federal officials). Users can also adapt the materials for their own needs. Explore the CD at www.epa.gov/watersecurity.

Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA): See the FEMA Web site at www.fema.gov/ or call 1-800-621-FEMA. This national agency coordinates emergency and disaster relief response. Their Web site contains links to the National Response Plan, the National Incident Management System (NIMS), the Federal Radiological Emergency

Response Plan and many other useful emergency response links.

InfraGard: This is an FBI-sponsored information sharing and analysis effort serving the interests and combining the knowledge base of a wide range of members. At its most basic level, InfraGard is a partnership between the FBI and the private sector. InfraGard is an association of businesses, academic institutions, state and local law enforcement agencies and other participants dedicated to sharing information and intelligence to prevent hostile acts against the United States. Learn more at www.infragard.net.

National Response Center (NRC) and National Response Team (NRT): The NRC is the federal point of contact for reporting incidents related to oil, hazardous material discharges, suspicious activity, security breaches or terrorism occurring in the United States. The NRT is an organization of 16 Federal departments and agencies responsible for coordinating emergency preparedness and response to oil and hazardous substance pollution incidents. The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the U.S. Coast Guard (USCG) serve as Chair and Vice Chair, respectively. Call the NRC at 1-800-424-8802 or (202) 267-2675 or visit www.nrt.org.

National Incident Management System (NIMS): The NIMS integrates effective practices in emergency preparedness and response into a comprehensive national framework for incident management. The NIMS will enable responders at all levels to work together more effectively to manage domestic incidents no matter what the cause, size or complexity. See the DHS Web site at <http://www.dhs.gov/interweb/assetlibrary/NIMS-90-web.pdf>

for the full NIMS document.

National Response Plan (NRP): The NRP establishes a comprehensive all-hazards approach to enhance the ability of the United States to manage domestic incidents. It provides the basis for federal government coordination with state, local and tribal governments and the private sector during incidents. The NRP can be downloaded from DHS's Web site at www.dhs.gov/dhspublic/interapp/editorial/editorial_0566.xml.

National Environmental Methods Index for Chemical, Biological and Radiological Contaminants (NEMI-CBR): NEMI and CBR Methods Advisor are two tools which will provide information on chemical, biological and radiological contaminants and analytical methods of detection, analysis and identification. These tools are being developed by the U.S. EPA. The National Environmental Methods Index (NEMI) is a free, searchable Internet-based database of environmental methods that allows comparison of methods, performance, cost and other information. NEMI is available on the Internet at www.nemi.gov NEMI-CBR incorporates the CBR Methods Advisor, which can help a user to quickly assess a threat, evaluate the site of the incident, collect samples and choose the best method for a given situation when there is limited information available regarding the possible identity of a contaminant.

Physician On-Line Reference Guide for Waterborne Disease: This on-line reference provides information on water-related diseases and other medical and health emergency response information. See the Web site at www.

WaterHealthConnection.org/index.asp.

Public Health Security and Bioterrorism Preparedness and Response Act of 2002 (also known as the Bioterrorism Act of 2002): Title IV of the Act addresses drinking water security and safety, and required drinking water systems serving more than 3,300 persons to develop response measures to incidents that could disrupt safe water supplies. To learn more, visit the EPA Web site on water security legislation and directives at <http://cfpub.epa.gov/safewater/watersecurity/legislation.cfm>.

Response Guidelines (Response Protocol Toolbox: Planning For and Responding to Drinking Water Contamination Threats and Incidents: Response Guidelines): This EPA document is a companion to this handbook and contains many forms, checklists and report formats to help a water system organize information for emergency response planning. These documents can be downloaded from EPA's Water Security Web site at www.epa.gov/watersecurity.

Response Protocol Toolbox: Planning For and Responding to Drinking Water Contamination Threats and Incidents: The EPA developed and wrote the Toolbox, building on the experience and expertise of several drinking water utilities, particularly the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California. Organized in modular format, the Toolbox assists with emergency response preparedness and will be of value to drinking water utilities, laboratories, emergency responders, state drinking water programs, technical assistance providers and public health and law enforcement officials. It can be downloaded at www.epa.gov/watersecurity.

Security Information Collaborative – A Guide for Water Utilities:

This short (40-page) booklet, developed by EPA, describes how water and wastewater utilities can form beneficial collaboratives to share information on water security. Case studies are combined with step-by-step suggestions for utilities to coordinate with key water security partners. The booklet may be downloaded from the EPA's National Homeland Security Research Center's publications Web site at www.epa.gov/nhsrc/pubs.htm.

Standardized Analytical Methods for Use During Homeland Security Events: This comprehensive compendium of analytical methods was developed by the EPA for use during an intentional contamination event. The document, EPA Publication No. EPA/600/R-04/126, is available from the EPA NHSRC Web site at: www.epa.gov/nhsrc/pubs/reportSAM092904.pdf.

U.S. Army Medical Research Institute of Infectious Diseases (USAMRIID): This Army lab conducts research on infectious diseases. For more information, visit their Web site at www.usamriid.army.mil/ or write to: Commander, USAMRIID, 1425 Porter Street, Frederick, MD 21702-5011.

U.S. Technical Support Working Group (TSWG): The TSWG is a federal working group that provides information on security products and tools, such as the U.S. Department of Energy's *21 Steps to Improve Cyber Security of SCADA Networks*. This document and other useful products can be downloaded from the TSWG's Web site at www.tswg.gov/tswg.

Water Contaminant Information Tool (WCIT): EPA developed WCIT, a

secure on-line database that provides information on contaminants of concern for water security. To learn more about WCIT, download the WCIT Fact Sheet from EPA's water security publications Web site at <http://cfpub.epa.gov/safewater/watersecurity/tools.cfm> or connect to the WCIT Web site at www.epa.gov/wcit. Access to the WCIT database is controlled.

Water Information Sharing and Analysis Center (WaterISAC): This is a water security information-sharing system which is accessible at www.waterisac.org. The WaterISAC Web site has a public portion and a secure membership-only portion available to subscribing utility personnel. WaterISAC is designed for disseminating alerts and warnings, receiving incident reports and sharing water-related information among water and wastewater utilities.

Water Security Channel (WaterSC): WaterSC is a free service of the WaterISAC, which was designed to disseminate basic security information, as developed by the federal government, via e-mail and a secure Web site. To sign up, visit www.watersc.org.