First Quarter - January - March 2003

Staff attended the, LEPC Staff and Chairs Meeting, and the State Emergency Response Commission Meeting on January 9-10, 2003 in Marco Island. and the Florida Emergency Preparedness Association (FEPA) Conference in Daytona Beach January 13-17, 2003. The Tampa Bay LEPC met on January 29, 2003 at the offices of the Tampa Bay Chapter of the American Red Cross; and on March 26, 2003 at the Tampa Bay Regional Planning Council.

HMEP Training continued as follows: Hospital Awareness/Operations under the auspices of the Sunshine Center, University of South Florida at University Community Hospital, Tampa, March 5-7, 2003; Brandon Regional Hospital, Brandon, March 12-14 2003; and Bay Pines VA Hospital HAZMAT Team conducted training on March 24-26 at St. Joseph’s Hospital. Additionally, awareness training was conducted for members of the Bureau of Radiation Control, Florida Department of Health.

During January and February, 16 How-to-Comply Workshops were scheduled throughout District VIII for facility operators. Additionally, special sessions were held at Essilor Lenses in St. Petersburg EPCRA Awareness Week was also proclaimed by both the LEPC and the Tampa Bay RPC for February 23 through March 1st and numerous city councils and all county commissions provided proclamations. Special Awareness Week activities were conducted by Essilor Lenses and Pinellas County gave the week publicity on their emergency management radio programs. Special LEPC outreaches were made at DeSoto Park Elementary School in Tampa on Shelter-in-Place since the school is so near to the Port of Tampa. Additionally, staff conducted special outreach presentation to the Florida Department of Health, Bureau of Radiation Control.

Staff represented LEPC at:

- Tampa Bay Spill Committee meetings on January 21 and March 11, 2003
- Greater Tampa Bay Marine Advisory Council on March 20, 2003

Staff completed the hazards analyses using CAMEOfm for 2003-03 for Pinellas County and forwarded them to DEM/DCA in January.

District VIII comes into the window for its biennial LEPC exercise on July 1st. Subcommittee is looking at an exercise in Manatee County, possibly in conjunction with Sarasota County which would make the exercise encompass two LEPC districts.