



## Tampa Bay LEPC *HazMatters* September - December 2017

Tampa Bay LEPC staff was involved in a number of activities during the quarter. Staff attended the SERC quarterly meetings held at the Sandestin Golf & Beach Resort in Miramar, FL on October 26-27, 2017. The quarterly Tampa Bay LEPC meeting was held on November 15<sup>th</sup>. In conjunction with the November 15<sup>th</sup> LEPC meeting, much discussion ensued about the preparation measures and lessons learned in association with Hurricane Irma from company, agency and individual perspectives.

The Tampa Bay LEPC's HMEP Training Subcommittee also met on November 15<sup>th</sup>. Noting that final training courses have been scheduled regarding the FY 2016-17 HMEP Training Contract, the mission of the meeting was to discuss the initial training objectives and desires for the FY 2017-18 HMEP Training Contract. Training needs and desires will continue to be solicited for each of the LEPC's six Counties and their corresponding municipalities.

The following constitutes all training courses administered by the Tampa Bay LEPC in association with the FY 2016-17 HMEP Training Contract: attendance of 27 students at the *2017 Hazmat Symposium* in Daytona Beach (January 17-20); conduct of three, shift-friendly, 3-Hr. *Responding to Gasoline Tanker Emergencies* courses each in Manatee County (May 1-3), the City of Tampa (May 11, 12 & 16), Hernando County (June 13-15) and Pinellas County (September 19-21); an 8-Hr. *Chlorine Handling and Emergency Response* course in Manatee County (July 11); a 40-Hr. *Hazmat Medic* course (August 14-18) and three 8-Hr. *Advanced Hazmat IQ* courses (August 29-31) [a cost share was implemented with Pinellas County regarding both of these courses]; 160-Hr. *Hazmat Technicians Certification* courses for 12 Pasco County students (July 17 – October 14) and one Hernando County student (October 30 – December 11); three 8-Hr. *Water Injection for Propane Incidents* courses in Manatee County (November 7-9); one 16-Hr. *Hazardous Materials Safety Officer/Transportation* course in Hernando County (November 16-17); and two 8-Hr. *Street Smart for Hazmat Response* courses, one each in Hernando and Hillsborough County (December 4 & 5).

The following has been initially identified and are likely to be pursued for conduct in association with the FY 2017-18 HMEP training budget: sending 28 students to the *2018 Hazmat Symposium* in Daytona Beach (January 16-19), a 16-Hr. *Meter Reading* course (Manatee County), *Decon* classes (Pasco County), and three 8-Hr. *Hazmat IQ* courses (Pinellas County). Additional training opportunities and needs will inevitably be identified as the year progresses. It is hereby noted that the HMEP Training Subcommittee members continue to consider developing a consolidated, hybrid, 160-Hr. *Hazmat Technicians Certifications* course curriculum that, if pursued and approved, would provide local, quality certification/instruction at a reduced cost. If implemented, such course may commence as early as this HMEP Training cycle.

Tampa Bay LEPC staff has completed the Hazmat Team Self-Assessments for Citrus County Fire Rescue, Hernando County Fire Rescue, Tampa Fire Rescue and the 48<sup>th</sup> Civil Support Team during 2016-17. It is envisioned that the remaining teams (i.e. Hillsborough County Fire Rescue, Southern Manatee Fire Rescue, Pasco County Fire Rescue and the Pinellas County Hazmat Team) will all be assessed by September 30, 2018.

This ambitious schedule clearly meets and exceeds the Florida State Fire College's request for assistance of the LEPCs to complete this task within their respective Districts over a *“three- to four-year period.”*

In terms of miscellany, LEPC staff and/or members additionally: coordinated and assisted in the conduct of the Hazmat Team Self-Assessment for Tampa Fire Rescue (September 20<sup>th</sup>), Hernando County Fire Rescue (September 27<sup>th</sup>), Citrus County Fire Rescue (September 29<sup>th</sup>) and Florida National Guard's 48<sup>th</sup> Civil Support Team Hazmat Team (October 2<sup>nd</sup>); participated in SERC's Training Task Force Conference Calls (September 20<sup>th</sup>, November 15<sup>th</sup> & December 13<sup>th</sup>); attended the (nearly) monthly meetings of Ammonia Handlers/ Operators group (September 26<sup>th</sup>, October 17<sup>th</sup> & November 14<sup>th</sup>); participated in the Hazards Analyses Working Group teleconference (October 10<sup>th</sup>); facilitated the (nearly) monthly meeting of the Pinellas Police Standards Council (October 11<sup>th</sup>, November 8<sup>th</sup> & December 13<sup>th</sup>); attended the Trademark Nitrogen Safety Day Celebration (October 11<sup>th</sup>); attended Kinder Morgan's annual Butane Emergency Response Drill (October 17<sup>th</sup>); attended the bi-monthly meeting of the Tampa Bay Spill Committee (November 14<sup>th</sup>); and attended Port Tampa Bay's annual Safety BBQ (December 7<sup>th</sup>).