

Tampa Bay Regional Planning Council

Overview of the LEPC Program





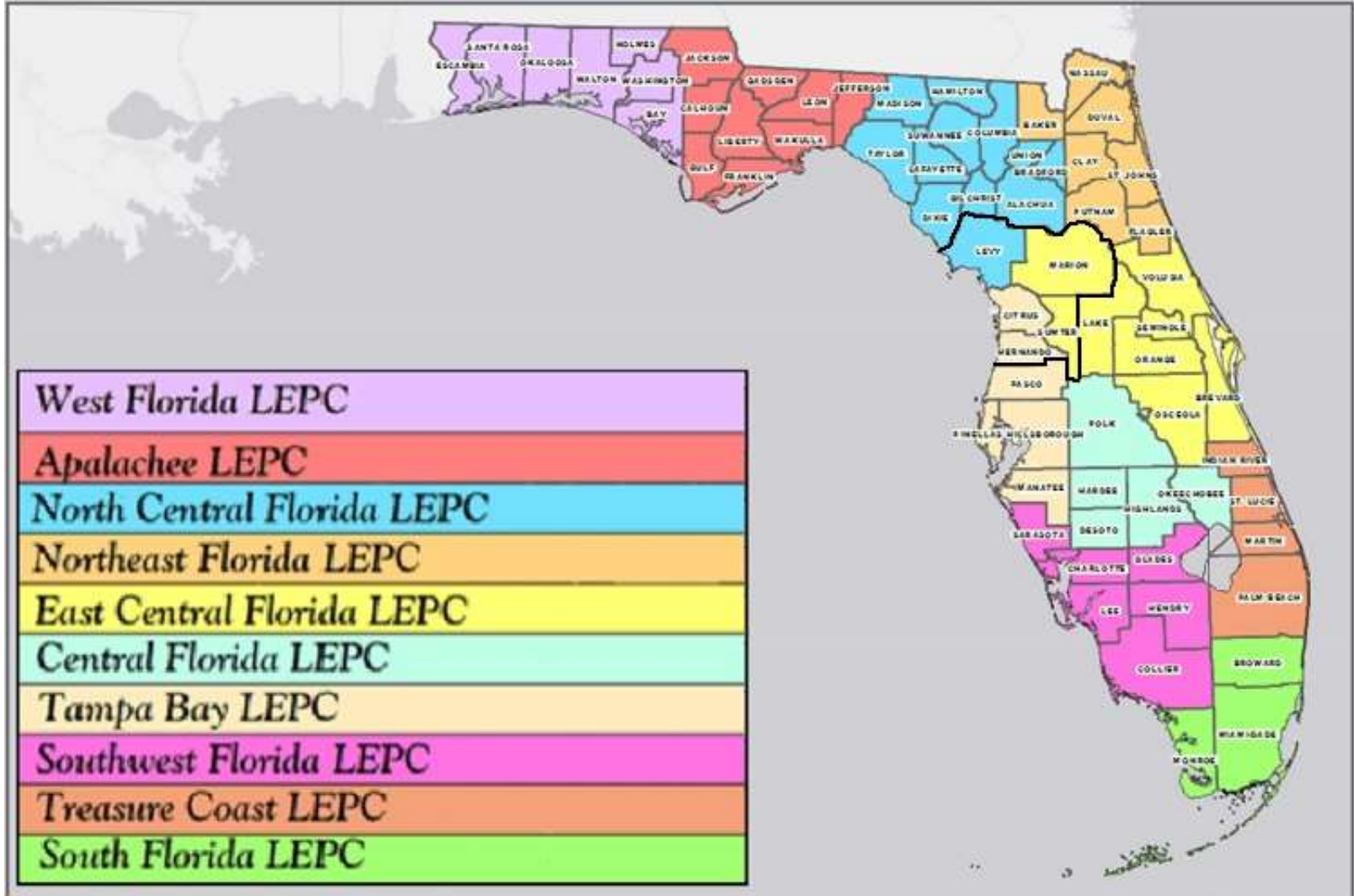
Local Emergency Planning Committees

Establishment

- Significant hazardous materials releases occurred in Bhopal, India in 1984 ([VIDEO](#)) and Institute, WV in 1985.
- With the intention of safeguarding the lives of residents and workers from future hazardous material incidents in the U.S., Congress enacted the “*Emergency Planning & Community Right-to-Know Act*” (EPCRA) in 1986.
- In 1988, each State was tasked with creating their own State Emergency Response Commission (SERC) and defining/establishing their LEPC Districts.



Local Emergency Planning Committees





Local Emergency Planning Committees

Purpose

- The mission statement of the LEPCs is to “*partner with citizens and local emergency management officials to protect communities from the adverse effects of hazardous materials*” through a focus on Planning, Coordination, Education and Awareness.



Local Emergency Planning Committees

Membership

The following constitute the LEPC membership categories:

Community Groups (1)

Elected State & Local Officials (1)

Emergency Management (7)

Facility Owners/Operators (5)

Firefighting (8)

First Aid/EMS (2)

Health (2)

Hospitals (2)

Interested Citizens (4)

Law Enforcement (2)

Local Environmental (3)

“Local Option” (4)

Non-Elected Local Officials (1)

Print & Broadcast Media (1)

Transportation (3)

Water Management District (1)

**** There are a total of 47 “Primary” members of the Tampa Bay LEPC presently representing the various categories in the quantities specified above.**



Local Emergency Planning Committees

Mandated Responsibilities

- Host and facilitate quarterly LEPC meetings that are open to the general public.
- Attend quarterly meetings of the State Emergency Response Commission.
- Perform annual update of the LEPC Hazmat Plan.
- Conduct annual EPCRA How-to-Comply Workshops.
- Assist in the conduct of Hazardous Materials exercises.
- Facilitate training of public-sector first responders under the HMEP Training program.



Local Emergency Planning Committees

Tampa Bay LEPC Affiliations

In the Tampa Bay area...

- LEPC staff regularly attends the nearly monthly meeting of the Ammonia Operations Group.
- LEPC staff regularly attends the bi-monthly meetings of the Tampa Bay Spill Committee.
- LEPC staff regularly attends the triennial meetings of the U.S. Coast Guard's Area Contingency Planning Committee.



Local Emergency Planning Committees

Notable Tampa Bay LEPC Work Products/Accomplishments

- Completed vulnerability assessment of local Ammonia industries (1995)
- Developed an *All Hazards Guide for Businesses* resource document (2014)
- Conducted Commodity Flow Study of materials being transported by truck locally at pre-designated locations (2015)
- Prepared *Tampa Bay LEPC Information Sheet* for distribution at meetings and/or site visits (2015)



Local Emergency Planning Committees

Notable Tampa Bay LEPC Work Products/Accomplishments

- Conducted biennial exercise known as *“Operation Hot Wheels”* (2016)
- Coordinated 26 training courses for 606 first responders with a total of 512 hours of classroom and/or hands-on instruction (2017)
- Determine common badging/credentialing requirements of law enforcement agencies in order to expedite the return of key personnel to their hazardous materials facilities following a disaster (Pending)



Questions?



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