

PLEASANTS COUNTY EMERGENCY OPERATIONS PLAN
ANNEX M: HAZARDOUS MATERIALS

Related Federal ESFs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ESF #10: Oil and Hazardous Materials Response
Related State Annexes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Annex O: Hazardous Materials
Purpose	<p>This annex outlines operational concepts and organizational arrangements for hazardous materials incident in Pleasants County. In addition to firefighting, the fire service has the responsibility for rescue, hazardous materials, warning, radiological protection operations, and backup EMS.</p>
Primary Agencies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Belmont VFD • St. Marys VFD • St. Marys Police Department • Pleasants County Sheriff's Office • Pleasants County Office of Emergency Services
Support Agencies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mutual Aid Fire Departments • WV Emergency Management Division (WVEMD) • USDOT • WVDOH • Local Industry
Authorities	<p>WV Code, Chapter 29, Article 3, as amended</p>
References	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>WV Emergency Operations Plan</i>, as amended. • <i>National Mobilization Guide</i>, National Interagency Coordination Center, 2006

	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>National Response Team, Hazardous Materials Emergency Planning Guide, (NRT-1).</i>• Occupational Safety and Health Guidance, Manual for Hazardous Waste Site Activities, NIOSH/OSHA/USCG/EPA• Site Specific Technical Guidance for Hazardous Analysis: Emergency Planning for Extremely hazardous Substances, EPA, FEMA, DOT• <i>ERG, Latest Edition</i>• <i>Cameo Suite</i>• <i>AAR Emergency Handling of Hazardous Materials, Latest Edition</i>
--	--

I. SITUATION AND ASSUMPTIONS

A. Situation

1. As outlined in the Basic Plan, Pleasants County is vulnerable to multiple hazards. These hazards could result in the destruction of or damage to homes and businesses; loss of personal property; and disruption of food distribution, utility services and other services. Pleasants County depends on volunteer fire departments for response to hazardous materials incidents and the SMPD and PCSO to respond to drug related hazardous materials incidents.
2. Pleasants County has several facilities that manufacture, use, or store hazardous materials (hazmats) and has had Meth lab type incidents in the past.
3. Hazmats are transported to, from, and through the county by various modes and in varying quantities.
4. State Route 2 - a major 2-lane route passes through the county in a north-south direction along the West side passing through St. Marys and Belmont and carries approximately 25,000 vehicles per day.
5. State Route 16 – a major 2-lane route passes through the County and St. Marys is an east-west direction and carries approximately 19,000 vehicles per day.
6. The Ohio River flows along the western edge of the County and is an important transportation route with substantial commodity moving daily including hazardous materials.
7. CSX Railroad operates a single rail system in the western portion of the County and extends from the Tyler County line to the Wood County line.
8. The County's fire departments are trained to the Hazardous Materials Operations Level (NFPA and US EPA) on how to conduct response/recovery activities for hazmat incidents. Some of the personnel are also trained to the Technician and Specialists level by their employer.
9. The private companies which handle substantial amounts of hazmats have personnel who are trained in responding to in-facility hazardous materials incidents.
10. Private industry and public emergency response agencies in Pleasants County participate in a Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC).

11. There are private hazmat response and clean-up companies and contractors within a couple hours driving distance from the County.
12. Local industrial facilities in the County and in neighboring Counties have response groups to assist with many hazmat incidents and will respond by request through CHEMTREC, COVIEO, CHLOREP, or by direct request.
13. Not all of these groups can provide immediate emergency response and may be only able to provide technical assistance, depending upon the identity of the material.

B. Assumptions

1. During emergency hazmat situations, the local fire department will assume Incident Command and fire department resources will be utilized. If local resources prove to be inadequate, mutual aid departments will be requested, and then response contractor's will be called. If these prove to be insufficient, requests for state and or federal resources will take place.
2. The 2 county Fire Departments and most adjacent counties are trained to the Operations Level. Some personnel are trained to higher levels but due to the limits of local resources and the time for assistance from industry or the RRT, the response will most likely be defensive only.
3. Ordinary citizens in the vicinity of the hazmat incident will "self-evacuate" to a safe location without notification from emergency personnel.
4. Other Assumptions
 - a) Motor vehicles and rail cars transporting hazmats will be properly marked (placarded) to enable the identification of the material.
 - b) Hazmats on barges used in waterway transport can be identified by information in the "mailbox" on the barge or by papers carried by the captain of the tow boat.
 - c) The ownership of the barge can be determined by the barge's identification number to the US Coast Guard.
 - d) In an industrial site or facility incident, there will be personnel available to identify the hazmats and their quantity.
 - e) Most industrial site incidents will be contained to the site.

- f) Most of the local industrial facilities have trained personnel and equipment to respond to hazmat incidents on their site.
- g) These facilities have employees who are knowledgeable about the materials handled at their sites and have specialized response equipment. The above people and equipment may be used elsewhere in the County.
- h) An industrial facility may request assistance from County agencies to assist in containing an incident.
- i) Most hazmat incidents will be small in scope involving only the people and the area immediately surrounding the incident.
- j) In a hazmat incident of large magnitude, the general public and the media, in particular, will demand information about the emergency situation and instructions on proper survival/response actions.
- k) Safety Data Sheets (SDS) are an excellent source of concise and comprehensive information.
- l) Response to incidents involving chemicals or other industrial materials should be closely monitored by knowledgeable people who are familiar with the material and its properties.
- m) Response to meth lab type incidents by local law enforcement will be supplemented by response from the local fire departments if necessary to provide backup and decontamination.

II. CONCEPT OF OPERATIONS

A. General

1. The fire service has the primary responsibility for protecting our community from hazardous materials incidents. They also support West Virginia Department of Health and Human Resources (WVDHHR) Office of Environmental Health Services concerning radiological incidents. Pleasants County Fire department hazmat resources include:
 - a. The Belmont Volunteer Fire Department.
 - b. The St. Marys Volunteer Fire Department.
 - c. St. Marys PD
 - d. Pleasants County SO

- e. Mutual Aid Departments
- f. The Regional Response Team (through WVEMD). None are local and must come from a distance.
- g. Local Industry Fire and Hazmat Response
- h. Pleasants County Decon Equipment
2. Hazmat incidents will be reported to the Pleasants County Comm Center.
3. Comm Center will notify:
 - a. The appropriate fire department
 - b. Other agencies as requested by the fire department.
 - c. Law enforcement
 - d. County Emergency Services Director who will notify WVEMD Watch Center (304-558-5380) and other necessary agencies.
 - e. WV DEP Spill Hot Line (304-642-3074)
 - f. The owner/ shipper/ carrier, if known as requested by the fire department.

B. Implementation of NIMS/ ICS

1. The first responder on the scene of an emergency will initiate the ICS and establish an Incident Command Post (ICP). As additional responders arrive, implementation of the ICS will take place.
2. During major emergencies/disasters, it may be necessary to transition from the traditional ICS structure to a Multi-agency Coordination System. The Emergency Operations Center (EOC) is central to this system as a conduit for coordinating information and resources. The Incident Commander (IC) will manage all on-scene coordination from the ICP.

C. Recommend Protective Actions

Fire service personnel are the most knowledgeable regarding the threats posed by hazardous materials. Therefore, they are responsible for assessing hazards and making recommendations to the IC/Emergency Services Director (ESD) for appropriate protective actions for emergency responders and the public.

D. Evacuation Operations

1. The IC may direct an expedient evacuation at the incident site, isolation area or protective action area associated with a fire, hazmat spill or radiological incident.
2. Fire service and other emergency responders on-site will normally initiate the evacuation pending the arrival of additional personnel. (Annex E – Evacuation and Re-Entry)
3. Residents and other citizens in the immediate area may have already self-evacuated without notice.
4. Major fires, hazmat spills or a terrorist incident may require a large-scale evacuation. Law enforcement is the lead agency responsible for planning evacuation of known risk areas and carrying out large-scale evacuation operations. During such evacuations, fire service teams may be tasked to:
 - a. Alert residents in the affected area who have not been warned by other means.
 - b. Evacuate individuals who require assistance.
5. Shelters out of the incident area will be opened for evacuees.
6. Individuals may receive evacuation or other instructions by home phone, cell, text, or email.

E. Terrorist Incident Response

1. Law enforcement agencies generally have the lead in terrorism management activities including evidence preservation. The fire service will provide support as requested. Such support will include life saving support and emergency medical services.
2. During terrorist incident response, the incident command team will establish operating areas and formulate plans of action. Emergency responders should look for any signs of secondary devices.

F. Requesting External Assistance

If local fire resources are inadequate to deal with an emergency, fire resources utilizing existing mutual aid agreements will be requested by the Fire Department in accordance with the terms of these agreements. If mutual aid

and inter-local agreements prove to be inadequate, the County Emergency Services Director may request additional assistance from the State.

G. Miscellaneous

1. Mutual Aid departments and squads participating in these operations should receive mission assignments from the Incident Commander (IC) in overall charge at the Incident Command Post (ICP).
2. The release of information concerning detailed hazmat control operations at the scene is the responsibility of the IC in charge at the ICP. Appropriate EOC staff may issue public information releases on overall fire control operations
3. Coordination with federal fire suppression resources is through the State Forester, in cooperation with the State Fire Marshal and the West Virginia Emergency Management Division (WVEMD).
4. The responsibility for situation assessment and determining resources needs lies primarily with local, on-scene IC.

III. ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

A. Local Volunteer Fire Departments

1. Provide hazardous material response services throughout the county.
2. Establish Command and report magnitude of incident to 911.
3. The Senior Fire Officer or designee shall serve as the Incident Commander and coordinate emergency operations.
4. Establish Zones
5. Assist with public warnings.
6. Support other public safety operations.
7. Conduct and rescue operations.
8. Identify and request necessary resources.
9. Set up and operate decontamination stations.
10. Request utility shut offs in incident area if necessary

B. Pleasants County Office of Emergency Services

1. Activates and operates the county EOC during emergency situations.
2. Recruits volunteer staff members for the EOC.

3. Provide formal decon equipment to be used by either fire department
4. Activate the Everbridge Mass Notification system.
5. Review available information on placarded materials that pass through or are stored or manufactured in the county and pass onto the fire departments.

C. WV State Fire Marshal

1. Supports local fire suppression and hazmat operations as necessary and requested.
2. Coordinates requests, with the WVEMD, for federal resources.
3. Coordinates the deployment of Regional Response Teams (RRTs).

D. Emergency Medical Services

1. Provide treatment for those in need of medical care.
2. Arrange for timely removal to a medical facility
3. Initiate Mass Casualty Plan if necessary
4. Provide medical care for those responders assigned to the incident.

IV. CONTINUITY OF GOVERNMENT

- A. Lines of succession to the fire chief are in accordance with the department's Operating Guidelines (OGs).
- B. Essential records should be kept as safe as possible from fire, water, and other destructive forces.

V. ADMINISTRATION

A. Records Maintenance

All records generated during an emergency will be collected and preserved for use in determining costs and updating emergency plans and procedures.

B. Preservation of Records

1. Vital records should be protected from the effects of a disaster to the maximum extent possible.

2. For records damaged during an emergency situation, professional assistance should be obtained as soon as possible to preserve and restore those records.

C. Training and Exercises

1. All fire services personnel are required to be trained in proper ICS and NIMS training per WVEMD guidelines. Those who will participate in EOC operations receive higher levels of NIMS training.
2. The Fire Chief as IC is responsible to assure those fire department personnel operating at the incident have the proper level of training per State and Federal regulations (Operations per US EPA).
3. Exercises will be developed, administered, and evaluated using Homeland Security Exercise and Evaluation Program (HSEEP) standards.
4. The 2 county Fire Departments are trained and equipped to the Operations Level. Due to the limits of local resources and the time for assistance from industry or the RRT, response will most likely be defensive only.
5. Formal DECON equipment is provided by the County Emergency Services.

D. State and Federal Assistance

1. The Fire Chief will utilize their normal channels for requesting assistance and/or resources, i.e., through normal Mutual Aid procedures.
2. If State assistance is required, requests will be made through the County EOC and the Emergency Services Director, or through the County EOC.
3. If State resources have been exhausted, the State may request the needed resource(s) as described in the National Response Plan.

E. Reporting

All reporting related to the emergency/disaster will be compliant with NIMS and ICS policies and procedures.

F. Resources

A listing of local hazmat resources is found in the Fire Service Section K resource list.

VI. ANNEX DEVELOPMENT AND MAINTENANCE

A. Development

The Emergency Services Director is responsible for developing and maintaining this annex.

B. Maintenance

This annex will be reviewed and updated as necessary.

VII. REFERENCES

Refer to section IX of Basic Plan.

VIII. ATTACHMENTS

1. Commodity Flow Placards
2. County Decontamination Equipment and Supplies