



# BENTON COUNTY EMERGENCY SERVICES



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## For Immediate Release

December 3, 2008

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## Benton County LEPC to meet

Richland, Wash.—The Benton County Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC) will meet **Thursday, December 4, at 10 a.m.** in the Benton County Emergency Operations Center at 651 Truman Ave. in Richland.

Any chemical spill or release of a hazardous substance into the environment can quickly escalate to a public health threat or cause lasting environmental damage. In order to respond efficiently and quickly, emergency responders and citizens must have accurate information about chemicals in the communities where they live and work. With that goal, the Federal Emergency Planning and Community Right to Know Act of 1986 required every county in the country to organize and support a LEPC.

In Benton County, the LEPC has taken several steps to prepare for an accidental release of hazardous chemicals. It is a voluntary group of professionals and volunteers from local government, industries, fire, police, emergency medical services, and emergency communications. They play a key role in the county's emergency planning efforts.

Area residents can call Benton County Emergency Services at (509) 628-2600 for additional details and directions.

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