

# Colorado Emergency Planning Committee

Annual Report  
2015



**March 2016**



# Colorado Emergency Planning Committee

The Colorado Emergency Planning Commission (CEPC) was created to carry out duties as required under SARA Title III/Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know (EPCRA) provisions. This law was passed in 1986 to help ensure that state and local governments are prepared to respond to chemical accidents. *(For more information on the purpose and duties of the CEPC please visit our website: <http://www.coloradoepc.org/>).*

## Committee Members

The Committee is made up of the following members:

<p><b>Greg Stasinos – CEPC Co-Chair</b>            Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment (CDPHE)            Office of Emergency Preparedness and Response*</p>	<p><b>Dave Hard – CEPC Co-Chair</b>            Colorado Department of Public Safety (CDPS)            Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Management *</p>
<p><b>Mark Quick</b>            Colorado Department of Public Safety            Division of Fire Prevention and Control*</p>	<p><b>Barry Cress</b>            Colorado Department of Local Affairs            Division of Local Government*</p>
<p><b>Captain John Hahn</b>            Colorado Department of Public Safety            Colorado State Patrol*</p>	<p><b>Deborah Brinkman</b>            City Council Member,            Littleton, CO</p>
<p><b>Steve Riner</b>            Affected Industry            Black Hills Energy (Retired)</p>	<p><b>Tim Gablehouse</b>            Public Interest            Jefferson County LEPC, NASTTPO, CEPP</p>
<p><b>Patricia Williams</b>            Community Group Representative            Colorado Emergency Preparedness Partnership (CEPP), Executive Director</p>	<p><b>John Shober</b>            Affected Industry            National Renewable Energy Lab (NREL)</p>
<p><b>Roy Rudisill</b>            Emergency Management            Weld County LEPC</p>	

\*Indicates a statutorily required member organization. The balance of the CEPC is made up of representatives appointed by the Governor each serving a two (2) year term. Future appointments to the CEPC will be made by the CDPS Executive Director.

# Goals and Mission

The Committee focused on the following Goals and Mission initiatives for 2015:

- Educate and encourage Local Emergency Planning Committees (LEPCs) to create and/or participate in broad-based community planning and preparedness programs using their resources under EPCRA to identify, assess, and plan for hazards related to hazardous materials use, storage and transportation.
- Work with and encourage applicable agencies of State government and the All Hazards Regions to recognize and utilize LEPC's in their work.
- Facilitate greater participation by nonprofits and the private sector in emergency planning and management activities at the community level.
- Support the Division's Statutory requirements to:
  - Build partnerships with first responders, agencies, and citizens in the public and private sectors
  - Coordinate activities with other state agencies and the all-hazards emergency management regions created by executive order of the governor
  - Develop and update a state strategy for homeland security
  - Facilitate, coordinate, and conduct capabilities assessments as necessary
  - Facilitate improvements in overall preparedness by developing coordinating mechanisms among Colorado's emergency management, homeland security, public safety, and public health agencies in order to deliver the capabilities necessary for all domestic disasters, whether natural or man-made, including acts of terror
  - Coordinate protection activities among owners and operators of critical infrastructure and other tribal, state, local, regional, and federal agencies in order to help secure and protect critical infrastructure within the state.

## Organization

The Department of Public Safety is the state agency responsible for the implementation of the federal "Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act of 1986", 42 U.S.C. sec. 11001 et seq., Title III of the federal "Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act of 1986", Pub.L. 99-499, and regulations thereunder, as amended ("EPCRA"). The Colorado Emergency Planning Committee is designated as the "state emergency response commission" required under EPCRA and performs those duties. The CEPC is a permanent subcommittee under the Homeland Security and All-Hazards Senior Advisory Committee (HSAC) within the Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Management. The authority to promulgate new state-level rules, which the "Commission" did once, currently resides with the Director of the Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Management. The "Commission's" remaining EPCRA functions, including all duties and authorities regarding LEPCs, have been transferred to the new CEPC.

# Committee Meetings

The committee meets bi-monthly on the odd-numbered months. All meetings are posted and open to the public.

In 2015, Committee meetings were generally held on the second Wednesday of alternating months. Outreach activities took place in January (Prowers County) and October (Pueblo County), and the Committee involvement in the September LEPC Conference took the place of the September regular meeting. Meeting minutes for the January, March, May, July, and November meetings of 2015 may be found on the website.

In 2016, regular Committee meetings will take place on the second Wednesday of the odd months, except for March when a conflict with the annual Colorado Emergency Management Conference will necessitate moving to the third Wednesday (March 16). Unless otherwise noted, meetings will be held from 1:00pm - 4:00pm at the Colorado Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Management, 9195 E. Mineral Ave., 2<sup>nd</sup> floor Policy Room, Centennial, CO 80112. Outreach activities may be held in addition to or in place of the regular meetings, details will be available on the website.

Agendas can be found on the CEPC website along with call-in instructions. Meetings generally include standing reports regarding:

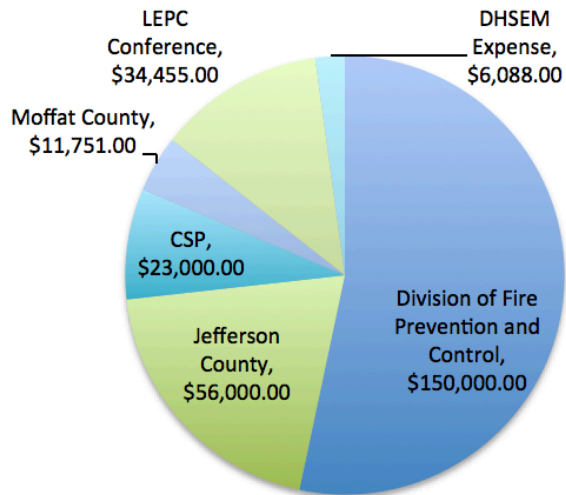
- Legislative issues
- State Hazmat working group
- HMEP grant status
- Annual conference planning update
- Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC) Roster approval

# Year in Review - 2015

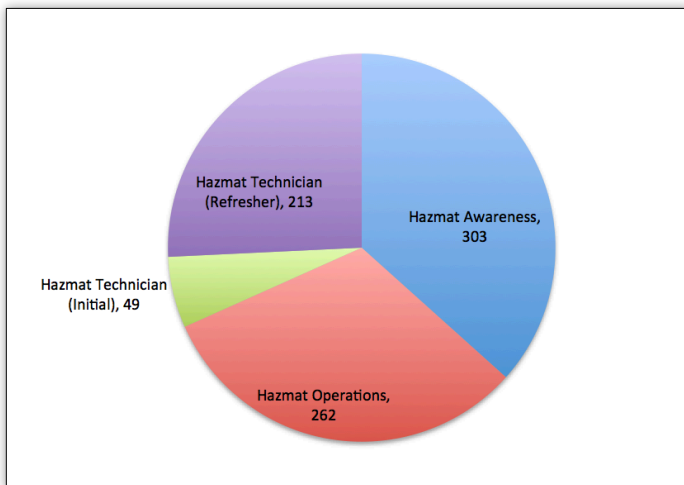
## Hazardous Material Emergency Planning (HMEP) Grants

**2014/2015 HMEP Grant Recipients**

The Hazardous Materials Emergency Planning (HMEP) grant program, through DOT PHMSA, provides financial assistance to enhance hazardous materials emergency planning and training to emergency responders and Local Emergency Planning Committees.



**Participants in 2015 Hazmat Classes**



The CO Division of Fire Prevention and Control conducted numerous classes in FY 2015 utilizing HMEP grant monies and serving 978 students. All class participants take a certification test at the conclusion of the course.

**Additional Hazmat Training Included:**

- Chlorine\*
- Hazmat Air Monitoring\*
- Hazmat Safety Officer\*
- Hazmat Instructor

\*Do not take a certification exam

## Annual LEPC Conference

The CEPC hosts an annual conference for Colorado LEPCs with an emphasis on planning and preparing for hazardous materials transportation incidents in Colorado. This year's conference was held September 9, 10 and 11th, 2015 in Mt. Crested Butte, Colorado. The afternoon of the first day was dedicated to "LEPC 101" which is designed for new LEPC members and presents the basics of EPCRA and introduces implementation ideas from both a state and local perspective. This year, the Delta County and the City of Aurora LEPCs provided insight into their LEPC operations and how they have addressed their particular challenges and unique situations.

One hundred seven participants attended the conference, most of which attended the LEPC 101 session. Attendees included representatives from local, state, and federal partners as well as representatives from the private sector.

Conference topics included presentations on "Why a Strong LEPC is Pro-Business", Chemical Facility Anti-Terrorism Standard (CFATS) implementation and status in Colorado, Immunity Protection for LEPCs, How to Handle Public Information Requests, and a review of Colorado's Designated Emergency Response Authority (DERA) law and proposed changes to the law in 2016. The Keynote presentation was a series of transportation presentations on pipelines (Pipeline Preparedness Association), highways (DOT Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration), and rail (UP and BNSF). Additional topics included a presentation by the Northeast Colorado Oil & Gas Co-operative, lessons learned from the Colorado River Workshop series, and updates on the Federal Executive Order 13650 by EPA and DHS. Unfortunately, the planned presentation by EPA Region 8 of several spill/cleanup case histories in the region was cancelled due to an ongoing response in the southwest part of the state. The highest evaluated section of the agenda was the LEPC panel, manned by representatives from the Summit, Denver, and Adams LEPCs. They each presented unique strategies that work for them and then answered questions from their peers. Finally, during the LEPC Forum the gathering of LEPCs was asked for their input on several proposed and effected changes on management and sharing of Tier II data. The LEPCs were provided with current information about the new "one-stop reporting" Tier II submittal to the state and how it will likely be implemented. They were advised to 'stay tuned' to the implementation developments as they occur over the next six months to a year. Evaluations for the conference were outstanding and indicated participants found the topics important and relevant to their LEPC.

## Outreach Activities – Prowers and Pueblo

On January 27, 2015, the CEPC conducted an Outreach Session with the Prowers County LEPC in Lamar, CO. The objectives for the outreach meeting were for the CEPC to learn about the activities, accomplishments and challenges of a rural LEPC, and to establish a baseline understanding of the laws and regulations relevant to LEPCs, DERAs and local emergency planners/managers. The agenda also included discussing the CEPC's role, recent changes to the CEPC based on the new State law, information on the Federal Executive Order 13650 and points of emphasis for LEPCs and local emergency management on EPCRA and hazardous materials transportation issues. The meeting was very well attended and participation was energetic. Several CEPC members made presentations outlining the roles and responsibilities of the various state agencies in the EPCRA and emergency planning/management arena. This was coupled with baseline presentations on EPCRA issues and LEPC roles and responsibilities. Takeaways from the session include the need for basic articles and education on EPCRA, specific agricultural chemicals and best practices, and emergency management roles that can then be supplemented with local information. Additionally, education and information on the need for securing agricultural chemicals and realistic options to do so would be very helpful. It was a very successful meeting.

On October 26, 2015, the CEPC conducted an Outreach Session with the Pueblo County LEPC in Pueblo, CO. The objectives for the outreach meeting were for the CEPC to learn about the activities, accomplishments and challenges of a diverse LEPC district that includes one of the nation's last chemical weapons stockpiles awaiting destruction. The agenda also included discussing the CEPC's role in the implementation of EPCRA in Colorado, changes to the CEPC and revised Tier II reporting requirements based on recent State law changes, information on the Federal Executive Order 13650 and the emergency preparedness and response challenges associated with legal and non-legal marijuana grow operations. The meeting was very well attended by both the CEPC and members of the Pueblo County LEPC. After a brief presentation and question and answer session with the CEPC members, the assembled group received excellent presentations on the county's long-standing involvement in the Chemical Stockpile Emergency Preparedness Program (CSEPP), the unique challenges of managing marijuana grow operations and were provided a tour of the new Emergency Services Center. Following a networking lunch, the CEPC members were given a fascinating tour of the Transportation Technology Center's Security and Emergency Response Training Center (SERTC). It was a very successful meeting and an effort that the CEPC intends to repeat in this and other parts of the State.

## CEPC Website and READYColorado.com

The CEPC's website, [www.coloradoepc.org](http://www.coloradoepc.org), is regularly updated with information regarding the work of the CEPC as well as providing additional resources such as public email contacts for LEPCs and upcoming conference information. In 2015, extensive discussion and public information sessions were held regarding adding a layer to the My Hazards mapping tool of the DHSEM website, READYColorado.com that would allow users to map Tier II reporting facilities' names and locations within a specified radius of a location entered in the tool. *Only facility name and location would be indicated on the map. No chemical or facility contact information would be shared.* The user would be directed to the appropriate Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC) for more information about a specific facility. During the public information sessions, several industries expressed security concerns about making this information so readily available to the general public. Discussions on the feasibility of adding a layer to the mapping tool will continue into 2016. The CEPC will make a final decision about this proposed action in 2016.

## CO Tier II Reporting Requirement Changes in 2015

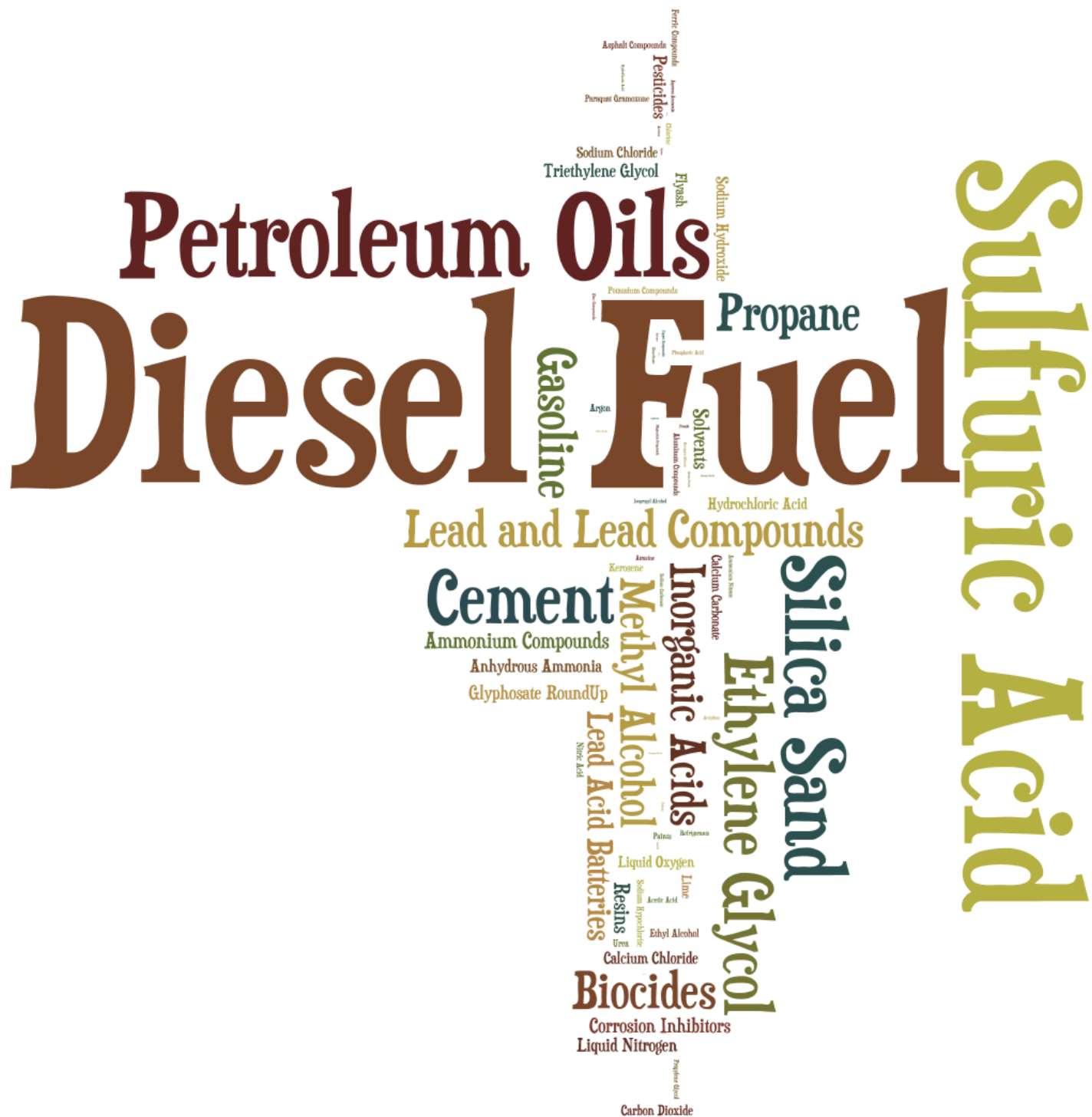
In September 2015, Colorado updated the electronic Tier II reporting requirements regulation (8 CCR 1507-42) to include the clarification that "facility owner/operators that report using the Tier2 Submit electronic reporting software are not required to provide that same report to the local emergency planning committee or the local fire department. The Colorado Emergency Planning Committee will provide Tier II information to the local emergency planning committees and local fire departments." The regulation update also clarified the name of the county in which a facility is located is a mandatory element of the Tier II as this is the primary data field used to separate Tier II reports into LEPC districts. Distribution of the Tier II reports by the CEPC to the LEPCs and local fire departments will occur in April 2016 for the reported 2015 chemical inventories.

## Most Commonly Reported Chemicals in Colorado - from Tier II and Risk Management Plan (RMP) Data

The following graphic is a visual representation of the most commonly reported chemicals on the Tier II Form in Colorado for the year 2014, minus Crude Oil/Produced Hydrocarbons. Adding in the Crude Oil/Produced Hydrocarbon numbers skews the data to the point that almost no other chemicals can be discerned in the graphic. This visual snapshot, coupled with the data from Risk Management Plan (RMP) facilities that follows, indicates a rough estimate of the most common chemicals stored, processed and used in Colorado, thus worth considering for the focus of planning, training, and exercise activities.



# Most Common Tier II Chemicals - 2014



# Risk Management Plan Chemicals - 2015

## The 10 Most Common Toxic Chemicals Reported in Colorado

Chemical	Total in tons*
1. Ammonia (anhydrous)	9,279
2. Chlorine	1,453
3. Ammonia ( $\geq 20\%$ concentration)	530
4. Hydrochloric Acid ( $> 37\%$ concentration)	150
5. Toluene diisocyanate	94
6. Sulfur dioxide (anhydrous)	61
7. Chloroform	25
8. Piperidine	19
9. Hydrogen fluoride/Hydrofluoric Acid ( $\geq 50\%$ conc.)	18
10. Hydrogen Sulfide	7

\*Numbers represent multiple processes. Data is accurate as of Friday, October 23, 2015 Compiled from RMP reports submitted to EPA Region 8.

## The 10 Most Common Flammable Chemicals Reported in Colorado

Chemical	Total in tons*
1. Flammable Mixture	33,479
2. Propane	3,277
3. Butane	715
4. Methane	243
5. 1,3-Butadiene	193
6. Ethane	145
7. Pentane	81
8. Difluoroethane	33
9. Isopentane [Butane, 2-methyl-]	31
10. Ethyl Ether [Ethane, 1,1-oxybis-]	29

\* Numbers represent multiple processes. Data is accurate as of Friday, October 23, 2015 Compiled from RMP reports submitted to EPA Region 8.

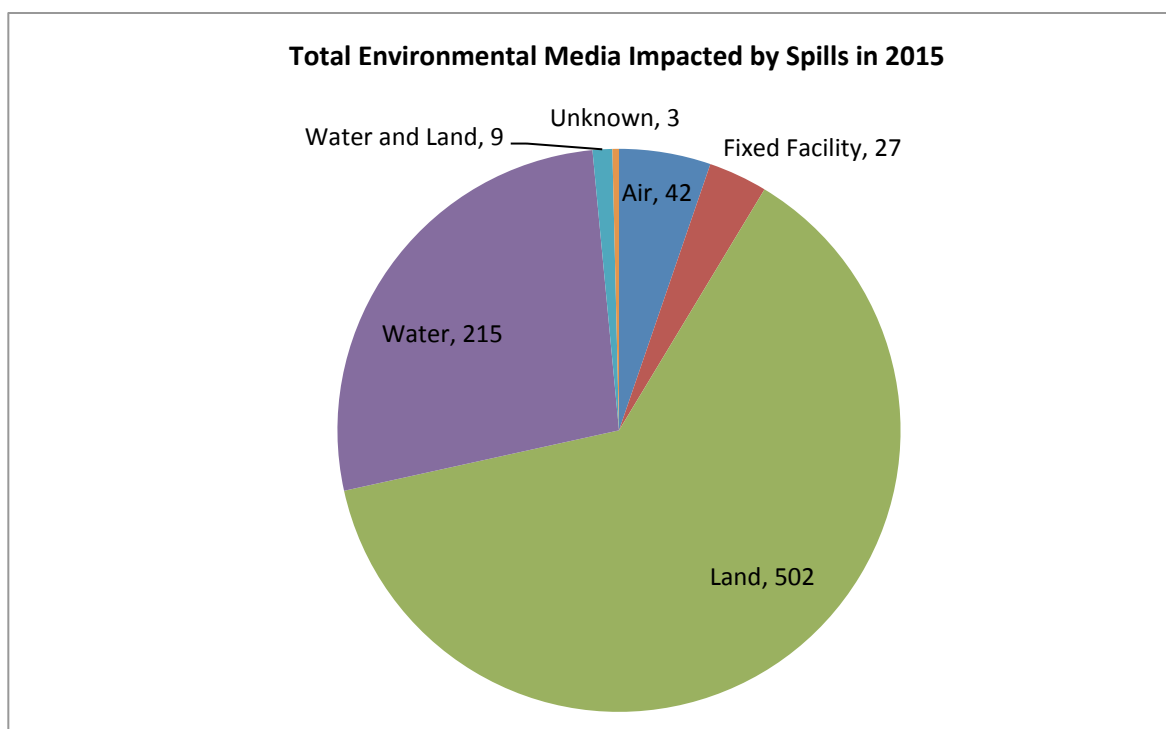
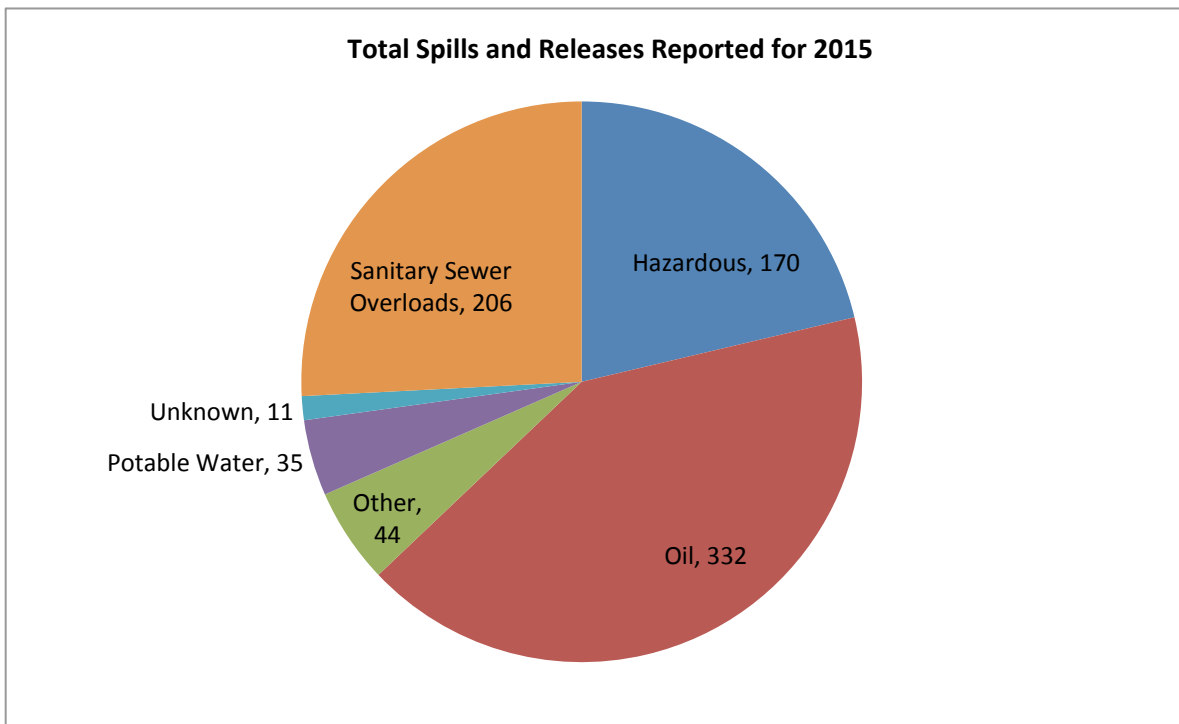
# Hazardous Materials Spill Data - CDPHE

The Colorado Emergency and Incident Reporting Line was established to provide emergency support 24-hours a day concerning hazardous releases or spills specified in C.R.S. 25-1.5-101(1)(p). Under this statute, the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment (CDPHE) is responsible for compiling and maintaining information necessary to enable the department to answer any inquiry concerning the proper action to take to minimize the public health hazards of a hazardous substance incident involving any specific kind of hazardous substance. The CDPHE also has the responsibility for developing and maintaining information on response resources and notifying the proper federal, state and local entities when a spill or release occurs.

The Office of Emergency Preparedness and Response (OEPR) maintain resource directories to facilitate adequate response and ensure timely and effective notifications of all applicable CDPHE divisions. The OEPR also maintains relationships with and 24-hour contact information of federal, state and local agencies that may have to be notified in the event of an emergency. Beyond coordinating internal CDPHE emergency management functions, the Colorado Emergency and Incident Reporting Line plays a key role as the liaison with federal, state and local environmental emergency planning and response agencies or functions throughout the state. The Colorado Emergency and Incident Reporting Line is a mechanism that is used on a daily basis to notify the CDPHE of emergency situations occurring around the state. In turn, the OEPR disseminates the appropriate information to the proper regulatory divisions or programs within the CDPHE to properly deal with a spill or release of hazardous substances and to protect the public health and safety of the citizens of Colorado. Some emergencies require several exterior agencies to coordinate a response. CDPHE response often includes other state agencies, federal agencies and local entities with which the OEPR has cultivated affiliations.

Furthermore, the OEPR has developed and maintains the only statewide environmental spill-reporting database, on behalf of the Colorado Emergency Planning Commission under the auspices of the Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act/Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act Title III (EPCRA/SARA Title III). The database was established in 1990 and is used to compile information concerning all environmental spills or releases that occur throughout the state and are reported to the CDPHE. A spill is to be reported to the CDPHE when it exceeds certain spill criteria established by federal standards or state environmental program regulations. The spill reports maintained in this database contain caller information, responsible party information, material and quantity of material released and any clean up actions that were performed to rectify the situation. The database is updated on a daily basis and the spill reports are a matter of public record that are accessed by many individuals to determine the history and actions conducted on a spill or release. Virtually all calls relating to spills exceeding the pre-established thresholds that are received on the Colorado Emergency and Incident Reporting Line are entered into this database. When the public requests a report or a copy of the database, all caller information is concealed. All other parts of the spill report are open for review.

Finally, the Colorado Emergency and Incident Reporting Line received a total of 1150 telephone inquiries and notifications for the period of January 1-December 31, 2015. Eight hundred twenty-six (826) of those calls were received during normal business hours and 324 additional phone notifications occurred after normal business hours (nights, weekends and holidays). Of those 1150 notifications, 798 required a spill report to be generated, which was then disseminated to the proper CDPHE public and environmental health division(s) and other regulatory agencies for proper handling, guidance and follow up.



### CDPHE Spills Data by County – 2015

County	Spills/Releases
WELD	88
EL PASO	80
ADAMS	70
DENVER	65
JEFFERSON	54
BOULDER	46
ARAPAHOE	44
LARIMER	38
DOUGLAS	27
LAS ANIMAS	23
PUEBLO	23
GARFIELD	20
EAGLE, LA PLATA	18
MORGAN	17
CLEAR CREEK	15
MESA	14
FREMONT, MONTROSE	8
GRAND, LINCOLN, SUMMIT	7
CHAFFEE, PARK, PROWERS, RIO BLANCO	6
ARCHULETA, HUERFANO, SAGUACHE	5
GUNNISON, LOGAN, MOFFAT, MONTEZUMA, PITKIN, ROUTT, TELLER	4
DELTA, ELBERT, MINERAL, OURAY, YUMA	3
CHEYENNE, CONEJOS, CUSTER, KIT CARSON, PHILLIPS	2
BENT, BROOMFIELD, DOLORES, GILPIN, KIOWA, RIO GRANDE, SAN JUAN, SAN MIGUEL, SEDGWICK	1
ALAMOSA, BACA, COSTILLA, CROWLEY, HINSDALE, JACKSON, LAKE, OTERO, WASHINGTON	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>798</b>

## Hazardous Materials Response Data – CSP Hazmat

The Colorado State Patrol (CSP) Hazmat Section (Troop 8-C) is an integral member of the Colorado Emergency Planning Committee. CSP Hazmat works to improve the overall safety of hazardous material transportation to better protect citizens and the environment. This is accomplished through close communication and cooperation with all levels of government and private industry, which are involved in the transportation of hazardous materials within and through Colorado. They provide prompt response and mitigation resources for on-highway hazardous incidents and support of local government through mutual aid agreements or other formal requests for assistance. The CSP Hazmat Section consists of at least 24 fully trained and equipped troopers (Hazardous Material Specialists). Specialists are deployed in 12, two-person teams assigned throughout the state.

The numbers depicted in the following graph are reflective of the number of responses for CSP Hazmat personnel, not necessarily hazmat spills. For example, included in these numbers would be a circumstance where a trooper responds to a call of an unknown substance, only to determine that it is not truly a hazardous material. While the significant majority of these responses are the result of highway transportation crashes or incidents, they also reflect instances of assisting local authorities with such incidents as clandestine methamphetamine labs, plane crashes, or any other circumstances where local authorities encounter hazardous or unknown substances.

Another data point that the CSP Hazmat Section is beginning to capture is what they refer to as "quantity saved." This figure represents the amount of material prevented from spilling through response and mitigation. For example, if a tanker were to roll over and begin leaking, CSP Hazmat has been capturing the amount of material left on the vehicle. While the number in some individual circumstances is an estimation, in many circumstances determining the amount of material left to be off-loaded compared to initial quantity based on the shipping papers equals how much ended up on the ground. Although a rough calculation at times, it is a number that highlights efforts related to hazmat response. For 2015, the quantity saved is 159,000 gallons of material that was prevented from potentially getting into the environment.

In 2015, CSP Hazmat responded to 233 incidents, a ten percent decrease from 2014. Of the responses, 166 of them were related to a motor vehicle crash. In addition, the CSP Hazmat team provided assistance 41 times to local fire and law enforcement personnel ranging from investigation and mitigation of suspicious packages, support with clandestine lab and chemical suicide cases.

### CSP Hazmat Spill Response Data by County - 2015

Weld	43
Jefferson, Pueblo	13
Adams	11
Eagle, Garfield, Larimer	10
Huerfano	9
Las Animas, Lincoln, Montezuma	7
Arapahoe, Clear Creek, Prowers	6
Morgan, Otero, Routt	5
Chaffee, Elbert, Fremont, Mineral, Washington	4
Douglas, Logan, Phillips, Summit, Yuma	3
Costilla, El Paso, Gunnison, Kit Carson, La Plata, Mesa	2
Archuleta, Bent, Cheyenne, Conejos, Custer, Denver, Gilpin, Grand, Kiowa, Park, Pitkin, Saguache, Sedgwick	1
Alamosa, Baca, Boulder, Broomfield, Crowley, Delta, Dolores, Hinsdale, Jackson, Lake, Moffat, Montrose, Ouray, Rio Blanco, Rio Grande, San Juan, San Miguel, Teller	0
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>233</b>