

Apache County Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC)

Vision

To be ready and able to appropriately provide planning and support for natural and/or man-made emergencies which may befall Apache County.

Mission

To promote hazardous materials safety, and assist with planning and preparing Apache County governments, organizations and residents for emergencies of all types, with a focus on effective prevention, preparedness, response, mitigation and recovery.

Strategic Issues

Prevention

- Identify all-hazard emergency preparedness strengths and weaknesses, and work to reduce the vulnerabilities within Apache County.
- Provide a forum for collaboration on multi-agency planning and prevention issues.

Preparedness

- Maintain chemical inventory information and make it available to the public (EPCRA). See By-laws.
- Conduct disaster pre-planning. Develop, test, review, and update the County Emergency Operations Plan (EOP), which includes the Apache County Hazard Specific Procedure for Hazardous Materials Emergency Response Plan, to prepare for and respond to chemical emergencies (EPCRA), and to address identified categories of risk. See By-laws.
- Conduct planning in alignment with regional, state and federal plans.
- Establish EOP training for LEPC members and for responders.

Response

- Support the County Emergency Management Office, to include Emergency Operations Center (EOC) team as needed.

Mitigation and Recovery

- Communicate processes to prevent or minimize the effects of known local hazards and potential threats to the county.
- Plan for post-incident recovery given limited county resources by helping to identify short-term and long-term priorities, processes, resources acceptable time frames and procedures to restore services, facilities or programs.

Integrated Partners

- Build and strengthen partnerships, both within and outside of Apache County, and work closely with nearby counties, the State Emergency Response Commission and applicable federal agencies.
- Identify appropriate service opportunities for the county's community emergency response team (CERT) members, as a means of ongoing training.
- Create a forum for developing funding opportunities to maximize the flow of grant monies to local emergency planning and response organizations, including the LEPC.
- Meet regularly, and establish subcommittees when needed, to achieve desired objectives.

Public Confidence

- Help support the ongoing viability and usefulness of the Joint Information Center (JIC).
- Conduct public outreach and education to help prepare county residents for potential emergencies and threats.
- Establish a central location for public information.
- Respond to public inquiries about local chemical hazards and releases.