

Hazardous Materials Awareness Level Personnel



Student Manual

Developed cooperatively by the

- **NorthWest Envirometrics, Inc.**
- **Washington State Patrol**

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Hazardous Materials Division

The information and procedures provided herein are for informational purposes only. This material constitutes a compendium of information commonly used by emergency responders functioning at the awareness level.

Any certification of training stating compliance with state and federal law resulting from the use of this training material is made at the risk of the certifying organization or agency.

The Washington State Patrol / Fire Services Bureau publishes this Instructor Manual for the *Hazardous Materials Awareness Level Personnel Class*

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The 1998 revisions were made by
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The January 2004 revisions were made by
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HAZARDOUS MATERIALS AWARENESS

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1998 REVISIONS

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2004 REVISIONS

NorthWest Envirometrics, Inc. staff

2008 REVISIONS

NorthWest Envirometrics, Inc. staff

SCOPE OF THE COURSE

Hazardous Materials Awareness Level Personnel is designed to provide the student with the basic skills necessary to safely and effectively manage the initial activities of an emergency involving the uncontrolled release of hazardous materials/Weapons of Mass Destruction and Toxic Industrial Chemicals. As such it focuses on those individuals in local jurisdictions who are most likely to witness or discover a hazardous substance release, and who are expected by their employer to initiate an emergency response sequence by notifying the proper authorities of the release. They would take no further action beyond notification. This class is best suited for:

- Emergency prehospital care personnel
- Emergency telecommunications officers
- Firefighters, as well as company and chief officers
- Law enforcement officers and command personnel
- Private industry employees likely to be involved in emergency response
- Public works personnel
- Other emergency response agency supervisory and training personnel, including emergency management, public health, etc.

COURSE GOAL

The goal of the competencies at the *Hazardous Materials Awareness Level Personnel* shall be to provide first responders with the knowledge and skills necessary to safely respond to and assess the hazards involved in a chemical emergency and to make the necessary notifications. These knowledge and skill levels are identified in the federal regulation 29CFR1910.120(q)(6)(i), WAC 296-824 (Emergency Response), WAC 296-843 (Hazardous Waste Operations), WAC 296-305 (Safety Standards for Firefighters) and NFPA 472, *Competence of Responders to Hazardous Materials/Weapons of Mass Destruction Incidents*, 2008 Edition, a nationally recognized standard.

FEDERAL REGULATION 29 CFR 1910.120(q)(6)(i)
WAC 296-824
WAC 296-843
WAC 296-305
NFPA 472, 2008 Edition

Successful completion of this class should provide the student with the necessary skills to objectively demonstrate competency in the following federally regulated areas:

- an understanding of the potential outcomes associated with an emergency created when hazardous materials are present
- the ability to recognize the presence of hazardous materials in an emergency
- the ability to identify the hazardous materials, if possible
- an understanding of the role of the first responder awareness individual in the employer's emergency response plan including site security and control and the Emergency Response Guidebook
- the ability to realize the need for additional resources, and to make appropriate notifications to the communication center

ROSTERS:

Upon completion of this training class rosters with test scores should be submitted to the Washington State Patrol, Fire Protection Bureau, Hazardous Materials Training Coordinator, at P.O. Box 42600, Olympia, Wa., 98504-2600.

Certificates of training will be issued by the state patrol upon receipt of student rosters.

CLASSROOM MANAGEMENT

This course is demanding to teach. Be well prepared before the class starts. Study the course and practice what you are going to do.

In the classroom, take charge of any situation and keep problems under control. Stick to the subject at hand. If you do not know the answer to a question, admit it. Then find out the answer as soon as you can and get back to the student who made the inquiry.

If you break the class into groups for certain exercises, be sure to answer questions so that all groups can benefit. Attempt to localize the case studies and exercises and make them realistic. Communication procedures, terminology, and equipment will vary throughout Washington. Identify these differences early so they will not cause communication problems within the class.

The Hazardous Materials Awareness Level Personnel course is designed for a maximum class size of thirty students.

Course Introduction

I. Introductions & Course Logistics

A. Introductions

1. Course Introduction Welcome to the Hazardous Materials Awareness Level Personnel course.

The staff of NorthWest Envirometrics, Inc., in cooperation with Washington State Patrol, Fire Marshal's Office, Preparedness Divison, Hazardous Materials Training. This course is designed for individuals who are likely to witness or discover a hazardous substance release and who are expected as part of their normal duties to initiate an emergency response sequence by notifying the proper authorities of the release. This course will use a mixture of lecture, class discussion, and classroom exercises, with slides interspersed to illustrate operational concepts.

You are expected to apply the knowledge you gain here to the drills and training sessions in your own jurisdictions by setting up mock scenarios.

2. Instructor Introduction and Background

- a. Name and Title
- b. Affiliation (Agency, business or association)
- c. Background and experience in hazardous materials, including academic credentials, length of service, response experience, etc.

3. Student Introduction

(Instructor has students stand and introduce themselves providing the following:)]

- a. Name and title
- b. Agency or business
- c. Brief statement of hazmat experience
- d. Expectations from class

B. Class Logistics

1. Class start & finish times

[Identify clearly what time class will begin and end each day. Make it a point to begin promptly and end on time.]

2. Class fees

[Explain registration fees (if any), identify its purpose and to whom it is to be paid.]

3. Length of class periods & breaks

[Each period will be approximately 50 minutes long with 10 minute breaks in between.]

4. Tests

[A closed book multiple choice test will be given at the end of the class. Students must pass with a minimum of 75% and complete all classroom exercises in order to receive certification of successful class completion.]

5. Accreditation/Certification

[Washington Administrative Code (WAC) 296-824, Requires Employers to "Certify Training".]

6. Class critiques

[Explain to students that course critiques will be provided to the student to be filled out following completion of the course.]

7. Restrooms

[Identify restroom locations in the immediate building area.]

8. Meals (where applicable)

[Identify restaurant locations in the immediate area, or if a meal is to be provided, explain procedure.]

Safety Keypoints

- (1) Always consider the possibility of multiple hazard categories in each hazard class.
- (2) Approach all hazardous material incidents from upwind, upgrade, and upstream, positioning vehicles and apparatus headed away from the incident scene.
- (3) In a hazardous material incident you may have to delay attending to the injured in order to save the lives of many others.
- (4) First operational priority: Isolate the hazard area and deny entry.
- (5) Only those emergency personnel in the proper level of *compatible protective clothing* and positive pressure self-contained breathing apparatus “who are actively performing emergency operations” are to operate within the inner perimeter.
- (6) Minimum safety perimeter for citizens is determined by the Incident Commander by following distances recommended in current edition of the *DOT Emergency Response Guidebook*...
- (7) To avoid inhalation hazards, self-contained positive pressure breathing apparatus must be properly worn, used, and maintained.
- (8) Never eat, smoke, or drink at or around hazardous material incident scenes until you decontaminate and wash your hands, face, and hair thoroughly.
- (9) Consult protective clothing compatibility data to ensure available protective clothing is compatible with the hazardous material(s) involved in the incident.
- (10) Think safety with every breath you take.