

Stark County LEPC



STARK COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Annual Report 2025

Contact Information

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2026 Quarterly Meetings

All meetings will start at 8:15 AM
in the Stark County EMA, EOC 1,
with Teams option, unless
otherwise noted.

- January 28, 2026
- April 29, 2026
- July 29, 2026
- September 30, 2026

LEPC Officers

Chairman - Tom Burgasser

Vice Chairman - Derrick Loy

Secretary - John Vergis

Emergency Coordinator –
Tim Warstler

Information Coordinator –
Patricia Crookston

Introduction:

In the past, citizens who wanted to learn about hazardous and toxic chemicals in their communities often had to rely on the goodwill of local industries. Some companies were cooperative, answering questions and even offering public tours of their facilities. However, if a company chose not to share information, concerned residents had little recourse to understand the potential risks in their neighborhoods.

The need for stronger public access to chemical hazard information became tragically clear on December 4, 1984, when a massive cloud of methyl isocyanate gas was released from a Union Carbide plant in Bhopal, India. This industrial disaster claimed the lives of more than 2,500 residents and left many others with severe injuries and permanent disabilities. The following year, a chemical release at an industrial facility in Institute, West Virginia, further highlighted the dangers posed by industrial chemicals—even in the United States.

These incidents prompted the federal government to act. In November 1986, Congress passed the Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act (EPCRA), also known as Title III of the Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act (SARA). This legislation was designed to empower communities to safely and effectively manage the various hazardous substances used or produced at industrial facilities.

To implement EPCRA at the state level, the Ohio General Assembly passed Substitute Senate Bill 367 in 1988. This law, codified as Chapter 3750 of the Ohio Revised Code (ORC), established the framework for EPCRA in Ohio. Under the federal law, each governor was required to designate a State Emergency Response Commission (SERC) by April 17, 1987. These commissions were tasked with designating Local Emergency Planning Districts (LEPDs) by July 17, 1987, and appointing Local Emergency Planning Committees (LEPCs) by August 17, 1987.

The members of the Stark County LEPC are recommended to the Board of County Commissioners. The Commissioners then nominate the members by resolution to the State Emergency Response Commission (SERC). The SERC appoints members for a two-year term beginning in August of the odd

CAUTION

HAZARDOUS MATERIAL STORAGE AREA

Hazardous Chemical Inventory Reporting

Annual chemical inventories for the preceding calendar year must be filed on March 1st of each year according to Ohio Revised Code 3750.08.

This includes inventories for all substances exceeding 10,000 pounds at any time that are classified as hazardous under the OSHA Hazard Communication Standard, as well as Extremely Hazardous Substances that exceed listed thresholds.

The Ohio EPA provides the Tier II Submit system to make the reporting and submission process easier and more efficient for facilities.

Tier2 Submit™ is software that helps facilities prepare and file their annual Tier II hazardous chemical inventory reports required under the Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act (EPCRA).

Tier2 Submit™ simplifies data entry and ensures accurate electronic submission. The program can be downloaded from the U.S. EPA's website at:

<https://www.epa.gov/epcra/tier2-submit-software>

numbered years. The election of LEPC officers is held at one of the last regular meetings of the two-year term.

SARA Title III requires that each LEPC include representatives from a broad cross-section of the community, including:

- State and Local Elected Officials
- Law Enforcement Agencies
- Fire Departments
- Health Organizations
- Local Environmental Agencies
- First Aid or Emergency Medical Service Agencies
- Hospitals
- Transportation
- Media
- Emergency Management
- Community Groups
- Industry

What is an LEPC?

The Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC) serves as a coordinated planning body dedicated to enhancing the community's preparedness for incidents involving hazardous materials. The committee brings together representatives from government, industry, and public safety organizations to promote collaboration and information sharing.

The LEPC's primary responsibilities include overseeing annual chemical inventory reporting, maintaining and exercising the county's hazardous materials plan, and supporting training initiatives that strengthen local response capabilities. While the LEPC itself is not an emergency response agency, many of its members serve in responder or support roles within their respective organizations.

LEPC Executive Board and Subcommittees:

The Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC) operates through an Executive Board and six specialized subcommittees that help implement and manage the program's objectives. Together, these groups ensure compliance, coordination, and continual improvement of local hazardous materials planning and preparedness efforts.

- **Executive Board:** Oversees LEPC staff, ensures that all local, state, and federal deadlines are met, and addresses issues requiring action between regular meetings.
- **Finance Committee:** Develops and manages the LEPC's budget to ensure proper fiscal control.
- **Planning and Exercise Committee:** Updates the Chemical Emergency Response Operations Plan and develops the annual exercise or test of the plan.
- **Compliance and Enforcement Committee:** Assists facilities with meeting the requirements of SARA Title III and enforces **Ohio Revised Code 3750** for non-compliant facilities.
- **Hazard Analysis and Risk Identification (HIRA) Committee:** Establishes policies and procedures for hazard, vulnerability, and risk assessments, and monitors conditions within facility properties.
- **Training and Education Committee:** Identifies training needs and opportunities for response agencies, LEPC members, and the public, ensuring preparedness through targeted education and outreach.
- **Transportation Committee:** Tracks and evaluates the movement of hazardous materials throughout the county once they leave a facility's property.

MISSION

The mission of the Stark County Local Emergency Planning Committee (SCLEPC) is to enhance community, first responder, and environmental safety by developing and fostering partnerships, and supporting facilities in complying with the Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act (EPCRA), Title III of the Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act of 1986 (SARA Title III).

VISION

A connected and informed community where relationships, planning, and compliance work together to support first responders and protect the public and the environment.

RECOGNITION AWARD – 2025 HIGHLIGHT

Since 1994, the Stark County Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC) has consistently met Ohio's State Emergency Response Commission (SERC) standards for excellence in emergency planning and preparedness.

The Stark County LEPC continues to meet all state and federal deliverables, maintaining its long-standing record of compliance and excellence in hazardous materials planning. This ongoing recognition highlights our committee's dedication to community safety, emergency readiness, and effective coordination with state and local partners.

STARK COUNTY LEPC

Working together with local partners to promote awareness, preparedness, and safety around hazardous materials

FISCAL

The Stark County LEPC is funded by a percentage of the annual filing fees paid by the reporting facilities. These annual filing fees are paid to the State Emergency Response Commission (SERC). The SERC returns a percentage of the total fees collected to the 87 LEPCs in the form of annual grants, based on a formula developed by the SERC Administration and Funding Committee.

- ❖ The LEPC's 2025 appropriated budget totaled \$117,875.49, with \$103,109.90 expended during the fiscal year.
- ❖ Total revenue received in 2025 was \$65,910.00, consisting of \$55,910.00 in SERC EPCRA funding and \$10,000.00 in support from the County Commissioners.
- ❖ The LEPC began the year with a cash balance of \$186,117.08 and ended the year with a balance of \$164,797.18, supporting continued planning, training, and preparedness activities.

2025 LEPC Budget

Group	Description	Appropriation	Expense
61000	Salary & Wages	\$58,000.00	\$54,595.34
62000	Employee Benefits	\$21,500.00	\$18,606.15
63000	Supplies & Materials	\$10,775.49	\$7,809.16
64000	Purchased Services	\$5,600.00	\$3,901.89
65000	Capital Outlay	\$4,500.00	\$3,995.80
67000	Other Allocations	\$17,500.00	\$14,201.56
Totals		\$117,875.49	\$103,109.90

PREPAREDNESS PLAN UPDATE

Each year, by October 17, the Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC) is required to submit a Chemical Emergency Response and Preparedness Plan, or an update to the existing plan, to the Ohio Emergency Management Agency (OEMA) for review. OEMA's Hazardous Materials Planners evaluate each submission to ensure it meets all state requirements before forwarding recommendations to the State Emergency Response Commission (SERC) for approval.

LEPCs may develop a stand-alone plan or integrate it as an annex to their county's Emergency Operations Plan (EOP). Stark County has chosen to maintain its plan as part of the EOP to strengthen coordination across emergency functions and agencies.

In 2025, the Stark County LEPC submitted revisions to the ESF-10 (Hazardous Materials) section of the EOP. The updates focused on formatting improvements, updated contact information, and revised situational details related to railroads. These revisions were reviewed and approved by the State. LEPCs may submit a "no change" letter for up to three consecutive years before a full update is required, ensuring that local plans remain accurate and effective.

2025 TABLETOP EXERCISE: "DUAL THREAT RESPONSE"

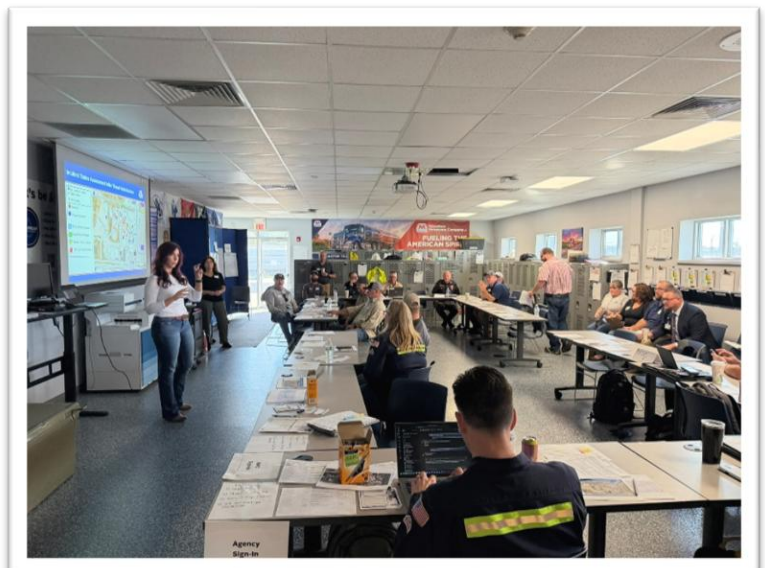
On Monday, October 6, 2025, the Stark County LEPC conducted a tabletop exercise simulating a combined active shooter and hazardous materials incident at the Marathon Petroleum Company LP Light Products Terminal. The scenario included offsite impacts, such as one tanker truck abandoned on 23rd Street and another crashing at the corner of Gambrinus Avenue and 23rd Street, releasing gasoline into a sewer drain. This facilitated discussion exercise focused on evaluating situational awareness and decision-making, coordinating and deploying mutual aid and critical resources, ensuring effective communication among agencies, validating population protective actions such as evacuation or shelter-in-place, and assessing the timely dissemination of emergency information to the public and media.

Following the exercise, a formal critique was conducted where participants, evaluators, and the SERC Facilitator agreed the scenario significantly enhanced the county's preparedness and response capabilities, with no recommendations for improvement. The State Emergency Response Commission (SERC) reviewed the exercise under the Ohio Hazardous Materials Exercise Evaluation Methodology (OHM-EEM) and voted to concur with the exercise in December 2025, acknowledging that all required criteria were met.

The Stark County LEPC expresses sincere gratitude to Marathon Petroleum Company for their partnership in this critical exercise. This collaboration strengthens our confidence in managing complex emergency situations to protect our community effectively.



MLP Terminal Manager, Whitney Reinhart, facilitating the emergency exercise.



Photos by: Tim Warstler

EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS & ENGAGEMENT ACTIVITIES

Throughout 2025, the Stark County LEPC actively participated in numerous planning, training, and exercise activities to enhance countywide preparedness and strengthen relationships with facility operators and community partners. In March 2025, the LEPC Program Coordinator participated in JA Inspire: Canton, engaging local students and promoting awareness of emergency response careers. On May 13, the coordinator took part in an airport tabletop exercise (TTX), followed by evaluating communications for Tuscarawas County's full-scale exercise on May 17.

In July, the LEPC Program Coordinator evaluated and participated in the Buckeye Terminals Tabletop Exercise for a worst-case discharge scenario on July 15 and observed Marathon Pipeline's functional exercise in East Sparta on July 23. On August 3, the coordinator supported partners at the Canton City EOC representing Stark County EMA during the Hall of Fame Concert, ensuring emergency operations coordination for a large public event.

In September, the LEPC Program Coordinator participated in the Stark County Mitigation Planning Kick-Off meeting and attended quarterly Community Advisory Panel (CAP) meetings engaging the community surrounding the Marathon Plant. On October 3, the coordinator attended the All-Hazards Conference hosted by Summit County, followed by participation in the Marathon Pipeline Natural Gas Plan Liaison Meeting on October 21, ensuring continued coordination after MPL began operating a 4" natural gas line feeding the Marathon Canton Refinery.

Finally, in December, the LEPC Program Coordinator evaluated population protection objectives during the Wayne County Tabletop

Exercise (TTX). In addition to these exercises and meetings, the coordinator continued regular participation in monthly Emergency Healthcare Planning Committee (EHPC) meetings and Stark County Hazardous Materials Response Team (SCHMRT) executive board meetings, maintaining ongoing coordination with local emergency response partners.

***TIER II REPORTS**

SUMMARY OF STARK COUNTY FACILITIES/CHEMICALS/HS/EHS

NUMBER OF HAZARDOUS SUBSTANCE (HS) CHEMICALS	153
NUMBER OF EXTREMELY HAZARDOUS SUBSTANCE (EHS) CHEMICALS	127
NUMBER OF ACTIVE FACILITIES	280

*This data reflects continued participation and compliance by regulated facilities, supporting ongoing emergency planning and preparedness.

UPDATED LIST OF LISTS

The EPA published an updated Consolidated List of Lists in April 2025, which consolidates chemicals subject to federal reporting and emergency planning requirements under EPCRA, CERCLA, the Clean Air Act, and the Clean Water Act. This latest version reflects recent regulatory changes and additions, including updates related to certain chemical classifications. The List of Lists is a useful reference for facilities to determine reporting obligations and compliance requirements; you can view this new format at: www.epa.gov/epcra/consolidated-list-lists

TRAINING & EDUCATION

During September 8–12, 2025, the Stark County LEPC hosted the Ohio Hazardous Materials Technician Course, delivered by Bad Day Training and Consulting at the Hazmat Training Facility in Canton. Eleven local firefighters participated in this 40-hour course, which is designed to enhance regional response capabilities for hazardous materials incidents and meets the standards of NFPA 470 Chapter 10, OSHA HAZWOPER (29 CFR 1910.120), and DHS Hazmat/WMD Technician requirements. The training included classroom instruction and hands-on exercises covering hazard recognition, chemical identification and classification, PPE selection and use (Levels A & B), technical decontamination procedures, detection and monitoring operations, containment and mitigation tactics, and scenario-based response drills. All participants successfully completed the course, earning certificates, and the training strengthened Stark County's operational readiness, increased the number of certified Hazmat Technicians, and improved inter-agency coordination. Feedback from participants highlighted the value of hands-on exercises and real-world scenarios.



STARK CO HAZMAT/WMD TRAINING SEPT 8-12, 2025 – Bad Day Training & Consulting



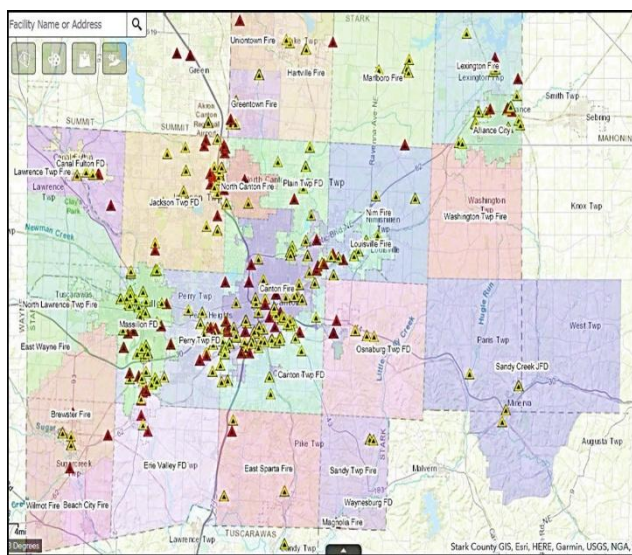
Photos by: Vince Spicocchi

Looking ahead, additional training is planned for January 2026 with the Hazardous Materials Research Specialist (HMRS) course. This course prepares personnel to conduct research and analysis on chemicals released or potentially released during hazardous materials incidents and aligns with NFPA 472 / NFPA 470 Chapter 7 competencies for Hazmat Technicians. Participants will learn to implement the Emergency Response Plan, identify and classify known and unknown materials, operate within the Incident Command System, provide analytical support to responders using modeling tools, evaluate PPE and monitoring equipment, and address CBRNE hazards. The HMRS training will further enhance Stark County's technical and analytical capabilities, strengthening the county's overall hazmat response and preparedness.

CAMEO

The Stark County LEPC utilizes CAMEO® (Computer-Aided Management of Emergency Operations), a software suite developed by the EPA and NOAA to support chemical and all-hazards emergency planning and response. CAMEO allows emergency planners and responders to store, access, and evaluate critical chemical information to develop effective emergency response plans. The suite includes CAMEO Chemicals, CAMEO Data Manager (CAMEO DM), MARPLOT, and ALOHA, providing safety and response information for thousands of commonly transported chemicals, tools to model potential releases and evaluate evacuation needs, and rapid access to Tier II report data, including physical properties, health hazards, reactivity, and safety data sheets. By using CAMEO, the LEPC can quickly identify chemical hazards, plan protective actions, and coordinate with local responders to enhance community preparedness.

HAZARD IDENTIFICATION & RISK ANALYSIS (HIRA):



Under the Ohio Revised Code, Hazards Analysis is a requirement that must be included in the plan. The requirement is to work with the Emergency Coordinators of each of the Extremely Hazardous Substance (EHS) facilities that submit Tier II Reports, to develop methods, procedures and understand capabilities. The LEPC Coordinator mails a comprehensive set of questions to an EHS facility for completion. Once they are entered and scenarios completed in the Aerial Location of Hazardous Atmospheres (ALOHA) the LEPC Coordinator invites the local fire department to review the data with the Facility Emergency Coordinator prior to inclusion into the County EOP. The goal of the Hazards Analysis process is to always have this information available to the Stark County

Hazmat team as well as provide a copy, as a preplan for the respective fire departments. This information is also required by the SERC.

STARK COUNTY LEPC 2025 ANNUAL HIGHLIGHTS

Throughout 2025, the Stark County Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC) maintained a strong focus on community safety, emergency preparedness, and operational excellence. The committee held four full committee meetings and four executive board meetings, including notable sessions hosted by Marathon Pipeline in April and the Canton Northeast Water Treatment Plant in October. These meetings provided opportunities for members to engage directly with local industry partners, gain insight into pipeline and water treatment operations, and strengthen collaborative emergency response planning.

The LEPC also made significant strides in emergency planning and preparedness. A comprehensive review of the Emergency Support Function (ESF) #10 hazardous materials response plan was completed, and the annual exercise was finalized. The October 6 exercise, hosted in partnership with Marathon Petroleum, tested the county's ability to respond to simultaneous active shooter and hazardous chemical incidents. Multiple agencies participated, including law enforcement, fire departments, EMS,

hazmat teams, emergency management, the Ohio EPA, and private sector partners. The exercise highlighted the effectiveness of unified command, interagency coordination, tactical response, communications, and decontamination procedures, earning high praise from state and county evaluators.



Commissioner Richard Regula presents an official proclamation honoring Stephen Gronow.
Photo by Mekena Halsey

As part of routine governance, the LEPC reviewed and updated its bylaws, refreshed membership, and completed a reorganization of officers during the July 30 meeting. This process reaffirmed members' commitment to the committee and welcomed a new member to the team. Special recognition was given to Stephen Gronow, who was honored for over 31 years of service to the LEPC, including leadership roles as Chair and Executive Committee member, and active involvement in multiple subcommittees focused on transportation, hazard analysis, finance, and training. Mr. Gronow's dedication has left a lasting impact on Stark County's emergency preparedness and planning efforts.

In addition to operational activities, the LEPC oversaw annual Tier II chemical inventory reporting, ensuring that local facilities submitted required SARA Section 311/312 reports. These reports provide critical information for first responders regarding hazardous chemicals stored or used at local facilities. The committee also processed ongoing FOIA requests, maintained transparency, and continued engagement with the public and partner agencies.

2025 was also a year of strategic funding and resource management. The LEPC received \$55,910 in state funding through the State Emergency Response Commission (SERC) to support training, hazard analysis, plan updates, and local fire department support.. In addition, the committee successfully secured Hazardous Materials Emergency Preparedness (HMEP) funding to provide specialized training for the county's Hazmat team, further enhancing operational readiness.



Left to Right: Robert Pattison, Tim Warstler, Stephen Gronow, Commissioner Richard Regula, Tom Burgasser, Arthur Murdoch, & John Vergis
Photo by Mekena Halsey

2025 Hazmat Responses

1. Diesel Spill—Massillon
2. Diesel Spill—Navarre
3. Fuel Spill— Wilmot
4. Anhydrous Release—Fresh Mark
5. Unknown Hydrocarbon—Canton City
6. Unknown Liquid—Canton City
7. Crude Oil Spill—Louisville
8. Crude Oil Spill— Massillon
9. Diesel Fuel & Hydraulic Fluid—Greentown
10. Propane Gas Leak—Canton City
11. Hydraulic Fluid— Canton City
12. Diesel Fuel—Jackson Twp
13. Balloon Fest Day 1 Detail—North Canton
14. Balloon Fest Day 2 Detail—North Canton
15. VP Detail— Canton
16. HOF Game Detail —Canton
17. Gold Jacket Detail —Canton
18. Enshrinement Detail—Canton
19. Concert Detail —Canton
20. Blue Coats Detail—Canton
21. Diesel Spill—Massillon
22. Heating Oil Spill—Canton
23. Radioactive Material—Canton
24. Cement Dust Runoff—Jackson Township
25. Sodium Hypochlorite, Fluoride, Chlorine Gas — Massillon
26. Tracer Dye—Alliance
27. Diesel Fuel—Alliance
28. Crude Oil/Gas— East Canton
29. Diesel—Perry Twp.
30. Fuel Oil—Alliance
31. Polypropylenes — Louisville

As the year closed, the committee finalized its 2026 operating budget, set the upcoming year's meeting schedule, and prepared to kick off 2026 with an LEPC Seminar at RG Drage Career Center on January 28, 2026, ensuring continued focus on training, collaboration, and public safety.

Overall, 2025 was a year marked by dedicated volunteer service, proactive planning, successful training and exercise, strengthened interagency partnerships, and enhanced responder training. The Stark County LEPC's accomplishments reflect the committee's ongoing commitment to safeguarding the community and ensuring that emergency responders have the tools, training, and information needed to respond effectively to any threat.

RELEASES/SPILLS

The LEPC received 9 initial notification release reports during the calendar year 2025. Listed below are the releases from the past year:

30 Minute Spill Reports for 2025				
01/06	Swift Transportation	Diesel Fuel	100 gal	Tank
1/13	Fresh Mark	Anhydrous Ammonia	UNK	Piping/Valve
3/6	Fresh Mark	Anhydrous Ammonia	UNK	Piping/Valve
3/25	Bellstores Marathon	Diesel Fuel	25 gal	Pump
3/30	AEP	Non-PCB Oil	10-20 gal	Transformer
6/2	Fresh Mark	Oil/Grease	UNK	Vent Pipe
6/18	AEP	Hydraulic Oil	30 gal	Bucket Truck (line)
10/6	Aqua Water Plant	HFS Chloride	1,200 gal	Fixed Tank
10/8	First Energy	Non-PCB Oil	7-15 gal	Transformer
12/11	AEP - JF Electric	Antifreeze 50/50	UNK	Radiator

STARK COUNTY HAZARDOUS MATERIALS RESPONSE TEAM (SCHMRT) - 2025 HIGHLIGHTS

In addition to supporting the Local Emergency Planning Committee, the LEPC Program Coordinator also serves the Stark County Hazardous Materials Response Team (SCHMRT). In this role, the coordinator regularly attends SCHMRT Executive Board meetings, records and maintains meeting minutes, and tracks hazardous materials response runs. The coordinator also coordinates with the Prosecutor's Office regarding cost recovery efforts with responsible parties, ensuring proper financial accountability. Additionally, the Coordinator assists the team with training and professional development opportunities, including managing travel requests for regional conferences such as the Solon Hazmat Conference. This dual role strengthens coordination between the LEPC and SCHMRT, helping to enhance the county's overall hazardous materials response capability.

The Stark County Hazardous Materials Response Team (SCHMRT) remains a vital part of the county's emergency preparedness. In 2025, the team responded to 31 incidents, including diesel spills, chemical releases, and propane leaks. They also provided safety support for large public events, such as the North Canton Balloon Fest, the Hall of Fame Game, multiple concerts, and even a Vice President of the United States detail, highlighting their versatility, skill, and dedication to public safety. These responses showcase the skill, dedication, and coordination of our team members, who ensure that hazardous situations are managed efficiently and safely.

One particularly notable response occurred at the Aqua Ohio water treatment plant in Massillon, where sodium hypochlorite was accidentally pumped into a fluoride tank. SCHMRT responded immediately, ensuring that the impacted tank was taken offline and that there were no impacts on water service. The plant and two nearby businesses were evacuated as a precaution, and the delivery driver involved was evaluated at a local hospital. Thanks to the team's rapid and professional response, the incident was contained without harm to employees or the community, highlighting SCHMRT's vital role in safeguarding Stark County residents.



Photo Credits: Unknown

In addition to response operations, SCHMRT members actively participated in professional development and training throughout the year. With funding support provided by the Stark County LEPC, up to eight team members were approved to attend the 2025 Ohio Hazmat Teams Conference in Solon, Ohio. This training opportunity allowed participants to expand their technical expertise, network with teams across the state, and bring back valuable insights to strengthen Stark County's preparedness and response capabilities.



A heartfelt thank you goes out to every member of the Stark County Hazardous Materials Response Team for their unwavering commitment, professionalism, and service. Your dedication, training, and teamwork make a lasting difference in keeping our communities safe and prepared every single day. The LEPC is proud to support you and deeply appreciates the vital work you do on behalf of Stark County.

MEMBERSHIP AND PARTICIPATION

The Stark County Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC) continues to maintain a strong and active membership, with twenty-seven (27) appointed voting members representing the disciplines required by the Ohio State Emergency Response Commission (SERC). These sectors include fire services, law enforcement, emergency management, health, environmental protection, transportation, media, community organizations, and facilities subject to the Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act (EPCRA). This diverse representation ensures that the LEPC remains balanced, compliant, and capable of addressing a wide range of issues related to hazardous materials preparedness and community safety.

In addition to its appointed members, the LEPC is fortunate to benefit from the participation of numerous regular guests who attend meetings throughout the year as their schedules allow. These individuals represent a wide range of organizations, including local fire departments, law enforcement agencies, emergency medical services, industry partners, the Ohio Emergency Management Agency (Ohio EMA), the Department of Homeland Security (DHS), and other key community stakeholders. Although SERC regulations limit the number of voting members in each sector to maintain balanced representation, the continued engagement of these guests remains invaluable. Their shared expertise and perspectives greatly enhance discussions, strengthen planning efforts, and foster collaboration across all levels of emergency preparedness. The LEPC extends its sincere appreciation to all members and guests for their ongoing dedication and commitment to the safety and resilience of Stark County residents.

Stark County LEPC Members (2025-2027)		
Name	Position	Agency/Company/Department
Balser, Wade	On-Scene Coordinator	OH EPA
Berczik, Tim	Fire Chief	Jackson Township Fire Department
Bowe, Marty	Assistant Superintendent	Stark County Educational Service Center
Burgasser, Tom ¹	Civil Service Administrator	City of Massillon
Carver, Ryan	Major	Stark County Sheriff
Clark, Gregory	Volunteer	Stark County
Crookston, Patricia ⁴	LEPC Program Coordinator	Stark County LEPC
Hall, Luke	Emergency Manager	Cleveland Clinic
Dugan, Anthony	EHS Manager	US Ecology
Heck, Matt	Fire Chief	City of Massillon
Lantz, Scott	General Manager	EnviroServe
Loy, Derrick ²	Pumping & Supply Maintenance Supervisor	Canton Water Department
McConnell, Patty	Preparedness Coordinator	Canton City Public Health
Murdoch, Arthur	Volunteer	Stark County
Norris, Kirk	Health Commissioner	Stark County Health Department
Pattison, Bob	Volunteer	Stark County
Plastow, Alan	Captain, Search & Rescue	Ohio Special Response Team
Regula, Richard	County Commissioner	Stark County
Reichel, Tim	Volunteer	Stark County
Rieger, Kai	Hazmat Team Manager	Stark County Hazmat Team
Schneider, Anthony	Hazmat Inspector/Investigator	US Department of Transportation
Stone, Kyle	County Prosecutor	Stark County

**Stark County LEPC Members Cont.
(2025-2027)**

Sweeny, Matthew	EMA Deputy Director	Stark County Commissioner's
Vergis, John ³	Hazmat/Environmental Officer	Wheeling & Lake Erie Railway
Warstler, Tim ⁵	EMA Director	Stark County Commissioner's
Weisburn, Eric	Stark County Sheriff	Stark County Sheriff
Wilcox, Lance	Volunteer	Stark County

Elected Positions (designated by superscript):

1 – Chairman; 2 – Vice Chairman; 3 – Secretary; 4 – Information Coordinator; 5 – Emergency Coordinator

