



CHEMICAL STOCKPILE EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS PROGRAM

*A ready public set to protect itself in an emergency.*

Umatilla  
Public Information  
Group

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## NEWS RELEASE

Date: Thursday, May 11, 2006

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***FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE and MEDIA OPPORTUNITY***

### Schools to Practice CSEPP Procedures on May 17<sup>th</sup>

*Pendleton, OR* - The annual Chemical Stockpile Emergency Preparedness Program (CSEPP) emergency preparedness drill will be held on the evening of June 6<sup>th</sup>. Schools in the Immediate Response Zone (IRZ) and Protective Action Zone (PAZ) will be practicing their procedures on Wednesday, May 17<sup>th</sup>, as many will be out of school on June 6<sup>th</sup>.

Children in 23 schools within the IRZ and PAZ, the Hermiston and Stanfield school district offices and all three Athena-Weston schools will be involved in shelter-in-place or evacuation drills, depending on their emergency plan. These drills will take place during school hours on Wednesday, May 17<sup>th</sup>. The schools participating are public, private, and Head Start centers.

It's important to note that the Athena-Weston schools are outside of the emergency response zone for a Umatilla Chemical Depot event, but have chosen to practice their procedures and be evaluated in conjunction with this CSEPP drill.

The drills will be prompted by a simulated chemical emergency at the Umatilla Chemical Depot and demonstrate emergency preparedness at these schools. Local, Federal, state and other evaluators will observe and evaluate the drill.

Residents and businesses are encouraged to evaluate their disaster plans and practice during the June 6<sup>th</sup> evening exercise where local first responders will practice their procedures.

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#### **SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS FOR MEDIA**

**Media representatives may view the exercise. Please contact Cheryl Seigal to make arrangements 541.966.3703.**