

Missouri Environmental Emergency Response (EER)

Skip Ricketts

State on-scene coordinator, St. Louis area

March 5, 2018

AIHA & ASSE Professional Development
Conference

Overview of Presentation

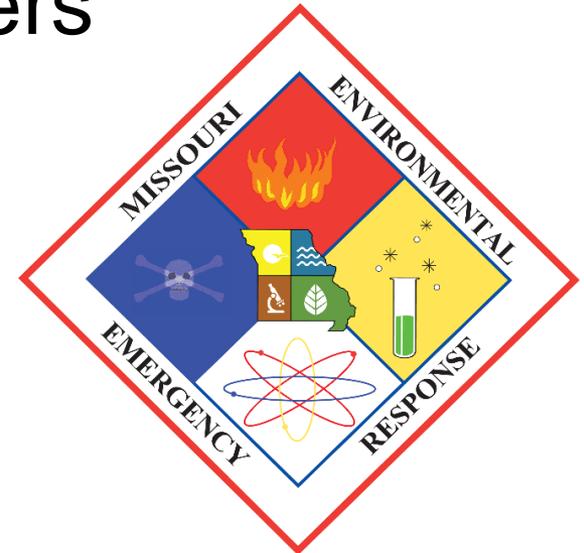
- Description and responsibilities of EER
 - Spill Bill
 - Duty officers and state on-scene coordinators
- Duties related to spills/releases of hazardous substances
- Additional duties
- Types of incidents

What is EER?

The department's front line of defense against

- Significant releases of hazardous substances
- Natural and man-made disasters
- Threats to homeland security

dnr.mo.gov/env/esp/esp-eer.htm





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Petroleum Spills



June 2008 – Jefferson County

24-Hour EER Spill Line

An estimated 1,500 reports per year
– Mostly from firefighters but anyone may call

573-634-2436

Duty officers:

- * Give technical help.
- * Contact agencies.
- * Dispatch EER state on-scene coordinators, if necessary.



Mo. Spill Bill Gives EER its Authority

- Responsible parties must report releases of hazardous substances to spill line
- EER addresses the release of any substance that may impact public safety and health as well as the environment
 - Releases onto land and/or water
 - Releases into the atmosphere



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Chemical Spills, Fires



June 2014 – I-55 N in Mehlville

State On-Scene Coordinators

- First priority: Ensure safety of people
- Stabilize situation to minimize impact
- Contain releases and protect land, air, waterways
- ID chemicals and identify properties, behaviors
- ID responsible party
- Oversee cleanup – Is it complete?
- Assist with cost recovery

Response Partners

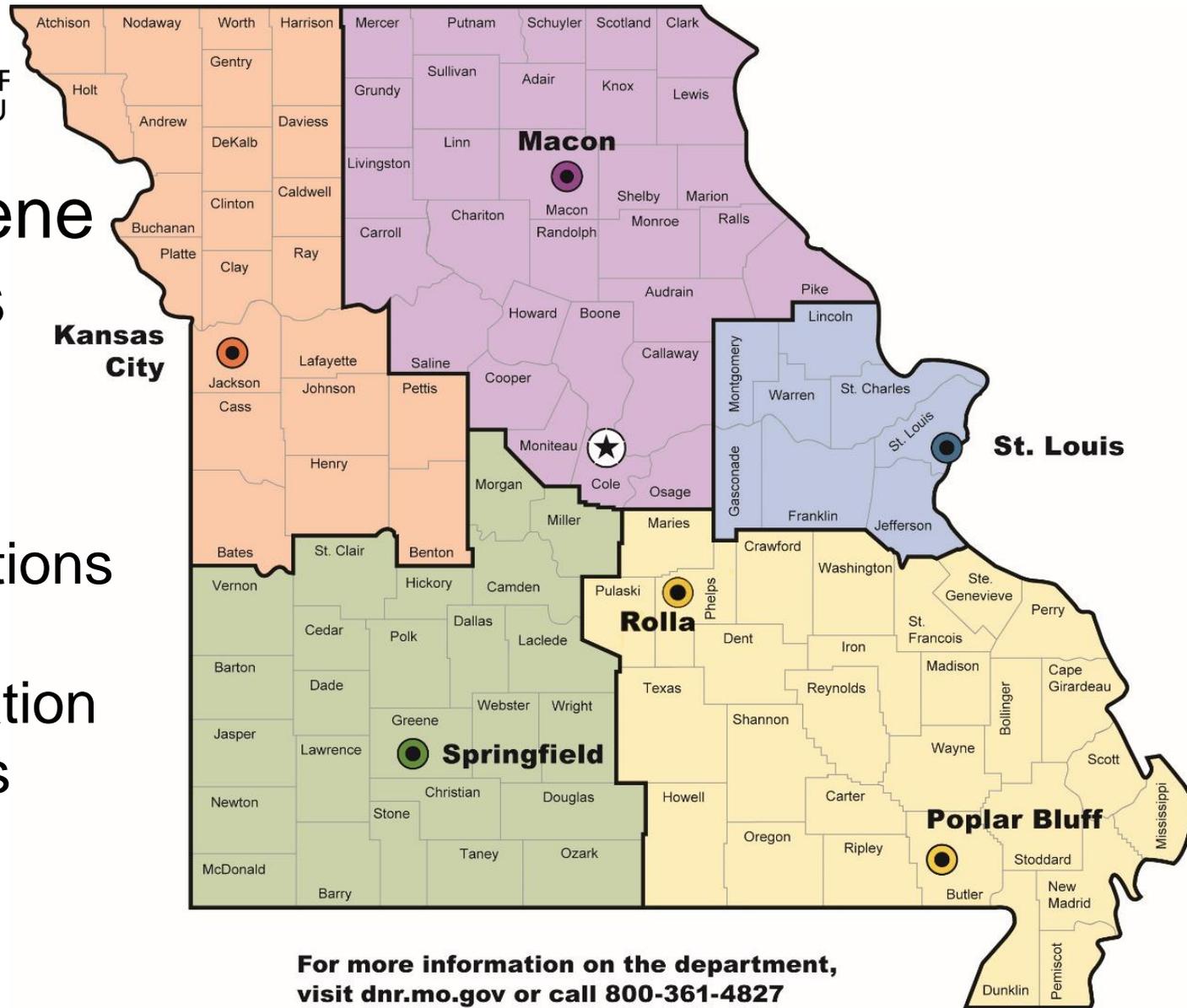
- Fire departments
- Law enforcement
- Mo. State Water, Highway patrols
- HazMat team(s)
- Health departments
- Towing companies
- U.S. Food and Drug Administration
- U.S. Chemical Safety Board
- EPA
- FBI
- Mo. National Guard 7th Civil Support Team
- Bomb squads
- U.S. Coast Guard
- MoDNR's Geologic Survey Division
- Environmental cleanup contractors
- MoDNR and EPA criminal units
- Mo. Department of Transportation



Training with
the Missouri
State Water
Patrol.

State on-scene coordinators

- Respond to emergencies from six locations
- Earn certification as hazardous material technicians.



**For more information on the department,
visit dnr.mo.gov or call 800-361-4827**

Fuel Containment



Truck drove off bridge into Mattis Creek, St. Louis County. EER helped protect waterway from release of gasoline.

Hazardous Substance Emergencies

How to define?

- Petroleum releases
 - More than 50 gallons for liquids or 300 cubic feet for gasses
 - 25 gallons or more from underground storage tank
- Releases of substances, according to:
 - CERCLA
 - State RCRA permit requirements
 - U.S. Dept. of Transportation
 - Clean Air Act
 - Clean Water Act: any oil released to a waterway producing a sheen or more serious situation

Cost Recovery

- Agencies that respond to emergencies involving hazardous substances can recover cleanup costs.
- MoDNR fact sheet with price guide
dnr.mo.gov/pubs/pub2095.htm
- Standard of care – Emergency Response Guidebook
- Reasonable and necessary costs

Duties: Planning

- Cooperative efforts with St. Louis City, area counties
 - Response plans for Bridgeton
 - Emergency planning committees
- Cooperative efforts with EPA
 - Greater St. Louis Subarea Committee
 - Spill Response Plans for Mo. and Miss. rivers

Duties: Planning

- Exercise Planning
 - Marathon Cross Jurisdictional Functional Exercise
 - St. Louis Regional Intermodal Exercise
 - Westlake Landfill Table Top Exercise
- Training
 - Transportation Rail Incident Preparedness and Response Training

Duties: Collecting Samples

Collecting water
sample after fish
kill in Flat Creek,
Franklin County.



Duties: Special Events



Monitoring for
radiation
at World Series



Security
efforts.



Preparation
is key.





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Petroleum Incidents



Trans
Canada
Pipeline

In St. Charles Co. –
MV Omaha



Petroleum Incidents



Improper
disposal

Vehicular
accident



Petroleum Incidents



From top left:

- Vehicular accident
- Operator error
- Mechanical failure

Abandoned Containers

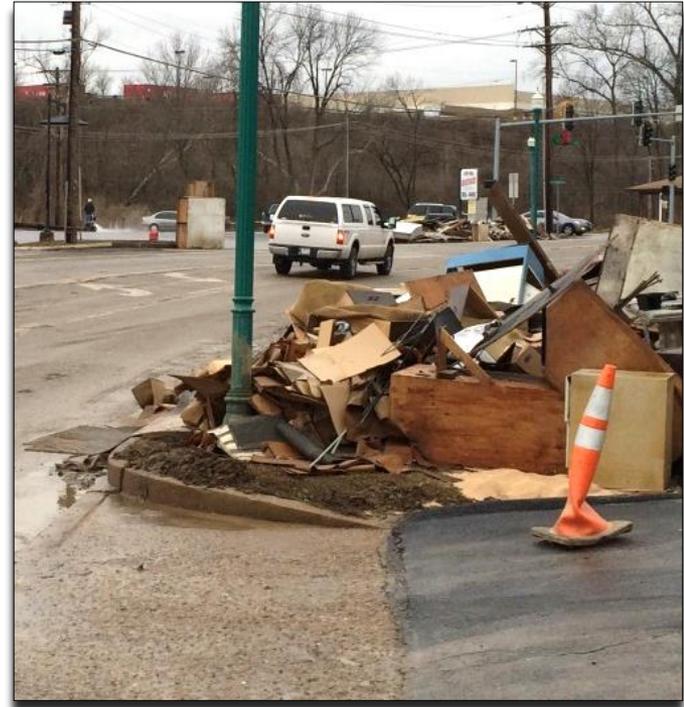


Most common:
Used motor oil

Hazmat –
criminal
investigation



Flooding of Meramec River



Removing debris
and recovering orphaned containers

Natural Disasters



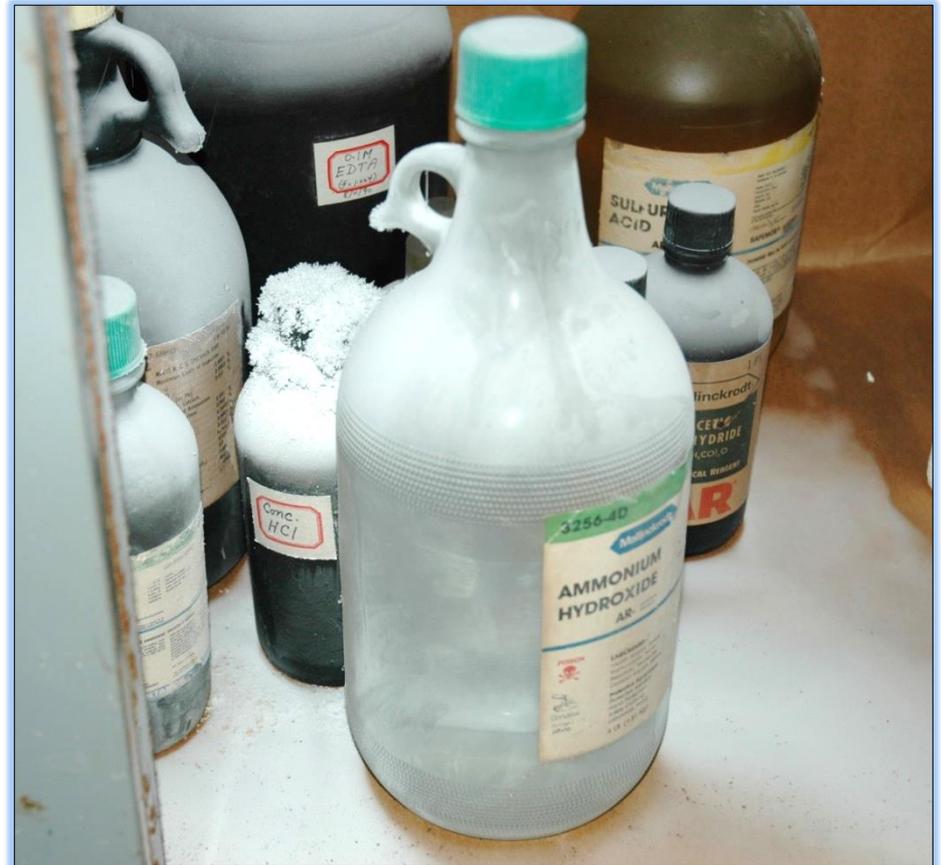
Tornado in Joplin

Request for Assistance/Scene Size-up

Accident waiting to happen:

- Leaking chemicals
- Strong acid beside base
- Firefighters called EER

November 2007



Mercury Spills



Broken mercury thermometers require extensive manpower to clean up

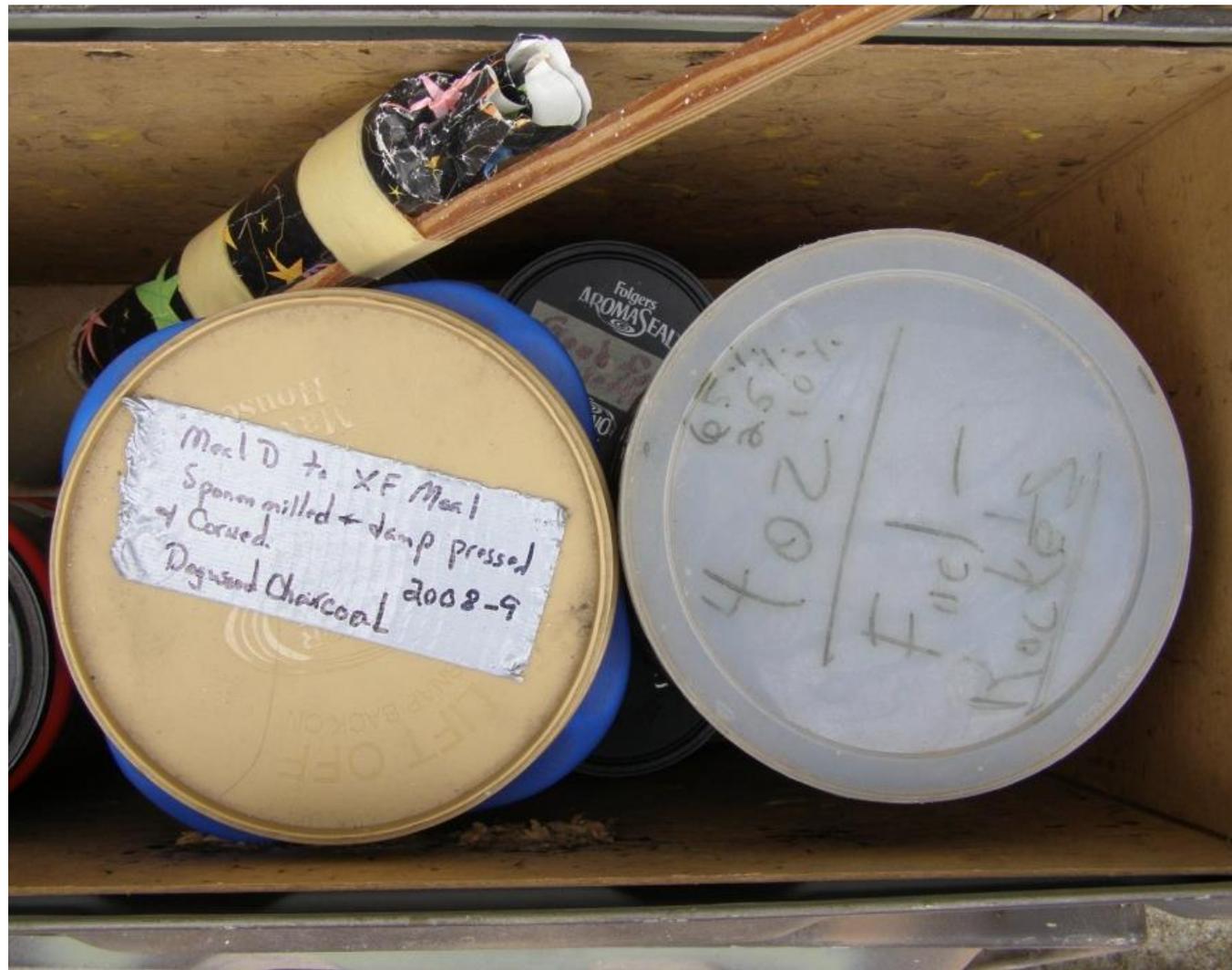
Explosives



Can you
find
the
ignitables?



Explosives



In hard-to-
detect box
on floor

Fires/Explosions

Fire at the
Praxair plant,
St. Louis --

* Cylinders
launched,
striking cars,
buildings

* Several
small fires
erupted.



Fires/Explosion



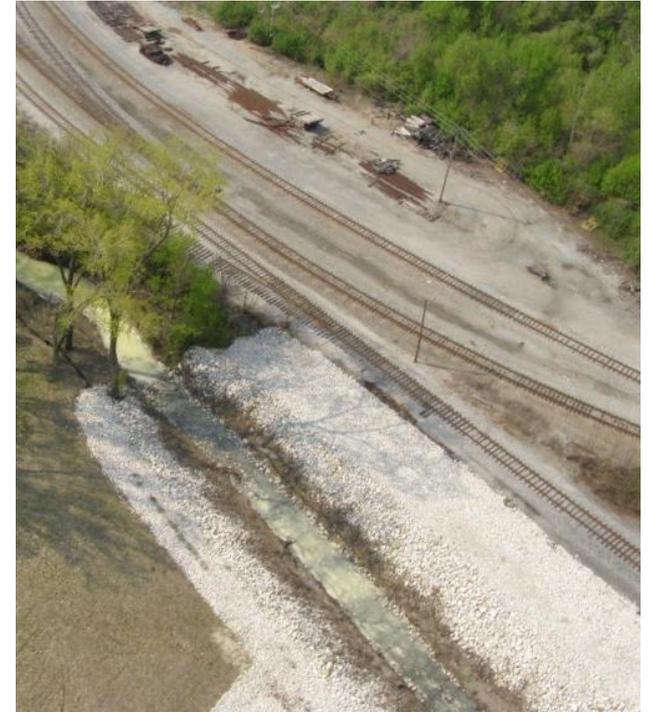
Explosions at chemical plants
-- EER provides technical support to firefighters

White Powder Incidents



Level B response to “white powder” involved business, FBI and U.S. Postal Service inspectors.

Ammonia in Cold Water Creek, St. Louis Co.



April 2011

Success Depends on Cooperation

- EER's mission: Stop, contain and stabilize spills/releases
- EER works with responsible party and responders to start cleanup, using professional resources.
- Cooperation among responders, contractors, agencies, consultants and business partners leads to success in cleaning up environmental emergencies.



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Questions?

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24-Hour Spill Line
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