

# MYSTIC REPC

Mystic Regional Emergency Planning Committee



January 9, 2024 | 8:30 a.m.

In person: Wakefield Public Safety Building's Community Room, 1 Union Street, Wakefield 01880

or via Zoom: <https://uso6web.zoom.us/j/86405139891?pwd=iyhCRLM5Fko2fh3Kr4NgHxk8ezqwL.1>

Dial in at 1-646-931-3860, Meeting ID: 864 0513 9891 / Passcode: 180380

## Agenda

1. Call to order: 8:34 a.m.
2. Welcome
3. Introductions
4. Approved meeting minutes from 11/28/2023
5. Discussion:
  - a. Proclamation will be reissued with additional communities listed
  - b. Updated bylaws will be submitted for review at the May meeting (meeting of the whole)
  - c. [Community Questionnaire](#) status
    - i. Responses not yet received from Arlington, Bedford, Concord, Everett, Lexington, Lynnfield, Malden, Melrose, Nahant, Peabody, Revere, Salem, Saugus, Somerville, Stoneham, Wakefield, Winchester, Winthrop, Woburn
  - d. [Special Location spreadsheets](#) need to be reviewed and submitted: They have only been received from Reading and Belmont
6. Treasurer's Report
  - a. \$6420.21 balance; The following communities have an outstanding invoice (click to get electronic version): [Concord](#), [Malden](#), [Medford](#), [Nahant](#), [Salem](#), [Saugus](#), [Somerville](#)
7. Report of Committees:
  - a. Medical: Ron Knight indicated that hospitals are busy with flu, respiratory, and COVID. Many emergency departments have patients awaiting placement in inpatient rooms.
  - b. Industry: Mike Castro has started contacting utility companies (Eversource, National Grid, Verizon)
  - c. Training & Exercise
    - i. Upcoming CAMEO training in Chelsea on February 6
    - ii. Introductory MARPLOT class at Kettle Cuisine on 2/29. Additional dates will be announced.

8. HMEP Grant updates: All communities under 2022 grant have participated in CAMEO training; additional training opportunities will be added for new users and for existing users to refresh their skills

2023 Grant: This grant will allow the REPC to create a Standalone Hazardous Materials Plan (HMERP) template for use by the Mystic member communities. A standardized HMERP template would allow the member communities to share information and operate similarly if they choose to adopt the template. If not, they can still utilize the information collected for their current plans. (special location data updates will be important for this exercise).

9. Tasks:

- a. We need communities to provide the names and contact information for their REPC representatives via our [community questionnaire](#).
- b. We need communities to review their current Hazardous Materials Emergency Response Plans.
- c. We need communities to review the [Special Location spreadsheets](#) and update them in order for us to map the locations using GIS. This information will be used in the Hazardous Materials Response Plan template.

10. Announcements

- a. By March 1, facilities covered by the Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act (EPCRA) must submit an emergency and hazardous chemical inventory form (Tier II Report) to the REPC, the State Emergency Response Commission, and the local fire department for the previous calendar year.
- b. RMP: Risk Management Plans (Clean Air Act, Section 112r)  
If you have not already, reach out to your local Risk Management Plan (RMP) facilities to ensure the REPC and other responding organizations know if it will need assistance in the event of a chemical release.
  - Clean Air Act Risk Management Plan Facilities: C.L. Hawthaway & Sons Corp.(Lynn); Covestro, LLC (Wilmington); Kayem Foods (Chelsea); Kettle Cuisine (Lynn); Lynn Water Treatment (Lynn); Monogram Gourmet Foods (Wilmington)
  - Facilities must coordinate annually with local response organizations and document that coordination.
- c. EPA EPCRA Tier II Webinar: 1/16/2024 at 10 a.m. [Register today](#).
  - i. Communities are subject to EPCRA reporting (Tier 2). Fines can be levied. Think about whether reports are needed for your municipal facilities with fuel storage, large quantities of batteries, etc.
- d. CAMEO Updates: CAMEO Data Manager 4.3.0 and Tier2 Submit 2023 now available ([download and read all the new features here](#))
  - i. As a safety, you should back up your data first via an export, download 4.3.0, and then import the data back in. Mike Castro is a resource if you need guidance.
  - ii. To avoid bugs, previous versions of CAMEO Chemicals should be deleted before version 3.0 is installed

11. Other news:

- a. 2024 Annual NASTTPO Conference to be held in Charlotte, NC from April 22-25. EPCRA, legal regulations, and more are discussed. Mike Castro will attend.
- b. Alan Gilbert discussed Kettle Cuisine's recent focus on lithium-ion battery safety. Suppression blankets are now at the facility; extinguishers have been ordered.
- c. Massachusetts State Emergency Response Commission (SERC) Update: Kimberly Castle, Technological Hazards Unit Supervisor at MEMA, led the most recent SERC meeting on December 13. Kimberly has assumed the duties of John Viverios, former SERC Coordinator. The next meeting will be held in Framingham on March 20, 2024.
- d. Our 2024 HMEP grant application has been approved. We will investigate the fuel routes being used in the region, including rail and pipeline systems, so that communities are aware of them for planning and response purposes. We will also conduct a capability assessment of our communities (training, equipment, plans, interoperability, communications, and more).
- e. OSHA Announces new emergency responder rulemaking: The proposed Emergency Response rule aims to provide basic workplace protections for workers who respond to emergencies as part of their regularly assigned duties. This will update the existing rule which has only had minor updates in the 43 years since it was published. [Read more about the initiative here.](#)

12. Open discussion:

- a. State has approved using the Emergency Management Preparedness Grant (EMPG) for purchase of blankets and other lithium-ion suppression equipment..
  - i. Medford has had 3 lithium fires and is investigating equipment options. Will likely go with single-use blankets to avoid exposure and contamination.
  - ii. The Mystic REPC is available to assist with the reimbursement process.
- b. Consider signing up for the EPA Region 8 Emergency Preparedness Newsletter

13. Next REPC meeting to be held on March 12 at Wakefield's Public Safety Building.

- a. Additional 2024 dates: May 14 (meeting of the whole), September 10, October 8 (meeting of the whole), November 12

14. Adjourn: 9:47 a.m.