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## Safety Training for Recovery Workers

The **National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences** (NIEHS) is part of the FEMA federal recovery mission.

If you are involved in employing hurricane clean-up and recovery workers, you may access health and safety technical and training resources from the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences through its National Clearinghouse for Worker Safety and Health.

Click here to request training (http://bit.ly/WTP-Florence-training-request-form).

## What are the needs?

Protection of clean-up and recovery workers is a legal requirement. Experience from previous disasters has proven the importance of protective programs and training.

Essential requirements include development of a health and safety plan (HASP), hazard assessment, and training. OSHA standards require a specific assessment for personal protective equipment (PPE) and respiratory protection. Once the hazards are determined, workers must be trained on how to avoid them and how to obtain, use, maintain, store and replace PPE.

It is essential that workers are trained to avoid exposure to toxins and hazardous materials such as asbestos, lead, raw sewage, fuel and flammable substances, diesel fumes and particulates, and mold if they are present at the site. If workers are cleaning up hazardous materials, more extensive training is needed because exposure to these materials can cause serious illness.

## What resources are available?

NIEHS can provide a basic four-hour safety and health awareness training program for clean-up and recovery workers. A booklet, presentations, and trainers are available to deliver the program in both English and Spanish.

Upon request, representatives of NIEHS will meet with organizations to help identify needs and plan training. Below is a list of training that may be provided through NIEHS and its Clearinghouse:

- 1. Hurricane Site Specific Hazard Awareness
- 2. Mold Hazard Awareness and mitigation techniques
- 3. Respirator Protection Training
- 4. Workzone Safety
- 5. Asbestos and lead awareness
- 6. Defensive driving
- 7. HAZWOPER Operations and Refresher
- 8. OSHA 10 Construction
- First Aid/CPR/AED
- 10. Violence in the Workplace

Many of the hurricane training materials and additional information about the Clearinghouse is available at the website: <a href="http://tools.niehs.nih.gov/wetp/index.cfm?id=2472">http://tools.niehs.nih.gov/wetp/index.cfm?id=2472</a>

The basic booklet order form: <a href="https://tools.niehs.nih.gov/wetp/booklets/index.cfm">https://tools.niehs.nih.gov/wetp/booklets/index.cfm</a>





NIH...Turning Discovery Into Health

The National Clearinghouse for Worker Safety and Health Training supports the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences' Worker Training Program (WTP). WTP has trained more than 2 million emergency responders and hazardous waste workers since 1987 to do their jobs safely. WTP is a part of the Department of Health and Human Services, which is a cooperating agency under the Worker Safety and Health Support Annex of the National Response Plan.