



HAZARDOUS MATERIALS EMERGENCY RESPONSE UNIT

Bergen County Haz-Mat provides assistance to fire and police departments throughout Bergen County, 24 hours a day, 365 days a year.

Bergen County Haz-Mat is prepared to assist the municipalities in a wide range of environmental concerns. These include emergency response, complaint investigation, regulatory enforcement, and pre-planning for emergency situations. Our staff is comprised of environmental specialists, hazardous materials specialists, industrial hygienists and support personnel.

Bergen County Haz-Mat responds to several hundred incidents each year throughout Bergen County. Although the unit's primary responsibility is to protect the residents of Bergen County, the unit has also assisted during times of major emergencies outside the county.



Dennis McNerney
BERGEN COUNTY EXECUTIVE

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BERGEN COUNTY
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH SERVICES

327 E. Ridgewood Ave.

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BERGEN COUNTY
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH SERVICES
Office of Environmental Protection

327 East Ridgewood Avenue
Paramus, NJ 07652

(201) 634-2780
FAX: (201) 599-6270
www.bergenhealth.org



TYPES OF INCIDENTS

Bergen County Haz-Mat responds to the following types of incidents:

- Abandoned or leaking drums
- Illegal chemical dumping
- Explosive or reactive chemical emergencies
- Carbon monoxide emergencies
- Assist in decontamination of personnel and equipment
- Fire incidents that create smoke problems, involve hazardous materials or waste, or toxic runoff water
- Complaint investigation
- Hazardous waste investigation
- Leaking underground storage tanks
- Radioactive materials incidents
- Petroleum spills
- Chemical spills
- Air pollution
- Water pollution



CAPABILITIES

- Confinement and containment of spills
- Air, smoke and plume monitoring
- Chemical identification
- Decontamination
- Technical resource and guidance

To provide these capabilities the unit has obtained numerous advanced monitoring devices, including:

- Smiths Detection HazMatID (Chemical identification of solids and liquids)
- Smiths Detection GasID (Chemical identification of gases)
- Ahura FirstDefender (Chemical identification of solids and liquids)



- ThermoFisher Scientific FH40 “K-O” Emergency Radiation Detection Kit (Detection and identification of radioactive materials)
- Coastal Environmental Weatherpak 400 (Portable weather station)
- Smiths Detection APD 2000 (Detection and identification of chemical weapons)
- Response Biomedical Corporation RAMP (Identification of biological weapons)

ENFORCEMENT

Bergen County Haz-Mat works extensively with federal, state, and local responders and regulators to provide timely emergency response activities and needed incident follow-ups. Follow-up activities generally involve investigation and enforcement activities that can result in the imposition of penalty assessments and/or referrals to appropriate agencies.

The Unit is authorized by the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection to investigate and conduct enforcement actions pursuant to a number of New Jersey’s environmental laws and regulations. These include:

- Spill Compensation and Control Act
- Water Pollution Control Act
- Air Pollution Control Act
- Solid Waste Management Act
- Safe Drinking Water Act
- Noise Pollution Control Act



PRE-PLANNING

Bergen County Haz-Mat maintains a library of chemical facility pre-plans and an extensive collection of chemical reference texts. We also have access to Right-To-Know Chemical Inventories for covered facilities. Police or fire departments needing assistance pre-planning a facility or requiring information regarding a particular situation or chemical can contact us.

TO CONTACT US

For an **EMERGENCY RESPONSE** or incident notification, contact your local emergency services by dialing 911. This communication will be forwarded to Bergen County Haz-Mat.

For **NON-EMERGENCY SITUATIONS** or investigations, call us directly at (201) 634-2780. Our office is open from 8:00am to 4:30pm weekdays.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact us.