



---

# DAYTON, OHIO REGIONAL HAZ-MAT RESPONSE TEAM NEWSLETTER

December 2004

---

**Denny Bristow, Coordinator**  
*dbristow@daytonhazmat.com*

**Pager 937-334-3660 Cell phone with voicemail 937-901-5112**

## Detection & Air Monitoring

### Part II

When operating at an incident, it is the Incident Commander's responsibility to ensure that the crews are working in a safe environment. We monitor the air quality for two distinct reasons:

- We are concerned about the quality of the atmosphere we are being exposed to.
- OSHA requires an employer to monitor the air quality if a chance exists that a low oxygen condition or the presence of a toxin may exist.

### Accuracy

The electro-chemical sensors in our meters have a +/- 10% accuracy rate. If you choose to use a colorimetric (Drager/Sensidyne) tube, they are only +/- 35% accurate. As you can see, *air monitoring is an art, not a science.*

### Colorimetric (Drager/Sensidyne) Tubes

This is the most cost effective method to monitor for materials that may be present in the atmosphere. Multi-gas meters are limited by the type of electro-chemical sensor that is installed, and it is very cost prohibitive to even attempt to stock additional sensors.

This technology relies on a chemical agent in a tube that will change color when exposed to the material in the air. An air sample is drawn through the tube using a bellows pump. There are many tubes available for detection purposes.

One of the most popular set of tubes in use is the *Poly Test*.

The Poly Test will allow the user to work an algorithm to identify an unknown material. Using these tubes will at least give you a chemical family and will rule out groups of materials.

Other tube sets are available that are specifically designed to detect and quantify WMD/Industrial Agents.

### Radiation Survey Equipment

The most popular survey meters available to local Fire Departments are furnished by Ohio Emergency Management through Greene & Montgomery County EMA.

These kits will detect Beta and Gamma Radiation; there are a very few kits that have Alpha capabilities. The survey meters should be used to help identify a safe perimeter for the HOT ZONE.

## FOAM TRAINING

The use of all types of firefighting foam is increasing. Please be aware of your responsibility for dealing with the runoff from training sessions when foam has been discharged.

The following information is being provided after a quite educational conversation with Ohio EPA On-Scene Coordinator, Jim Crawford.

**Points to ponder:**

- There are **some** exemptions while firefighting, **none for fire training.**
- You may not discolor state waters. This includes drainage ditches, creeks, streams, rivers, lakes and ponds.
- Discharge the foam and train on unpaved surfaces, providing the foam will not flow directly into a waterway.

**Penalties:**

- *First offense*—Notice of violation; it may or may not include a penalty clause.
- *Penalty clause*—\$10,000 to \$25,000 fine.

If you have questions or concerns please **call before you flow!!**

Ohio EPA Division of Surface Water Protection 937-285-6357.

**Welcome**

Please welcome our newest Team member:  
Aundray Toney—Jefferson Twp. F.D.,  
Montgomery County.  
Please welcome Aundray when you see him.

**THANKS**

I would like to thank all of our members and the jurisdictions we serve.

Our Team would not survive without the financial support from the jurisdictions.

There would be no Team without the dedication of our Team members. Each and every one of you is appreciated for your dedication and efforts.

A **Special Thanks to the Firefighters and Officers at DFD Station 11.** They are the backbone of this Team. Without there continued support and enthusiasm we would be back to square one.

**Haz-Mat Technician Class**

We are conducting a Technician level class at Sugarcreek Twp. FD on January 8, 9, 15, 16, start time is 0800 hours. This is a ***Cleveland State University*** course; it is free of charge and open to all Law Enforcement, Fire and EMS personnel. Please contact Denny Bristow at 901-5112 for more information.

**2005 Training Schedule**

Training for 2005 will mainly consist of hands on sessions. The subject matter for each month is open at this time. In 2005 we will be putting a new Haz-Mat 1 in service and will receive numerous pieces of new equipment. The equipment will be utilizing new technology and will require our Team to train with some pieces repeatedly to develop the familiarity required to be proficient in its use, care and maintenance.

March training is moved to the second week to avoid conflicts with Easter/Spring break.

**January**

No Training

**February 17-18-19**

0900-1200 hours

**March 10-11-12**

0900-1200 hours

**April 14-15-16**

0900-1200 hours

**May 19-20-21**

0900-1700 hours

**June 16-17-18**

0900-1200 hours

**July 21-22-23**

0900-1200 hours

**August 18-19-20**

0900-1200 hours

**September 15-16-17**  
0900-1700 hours

**October 20-21-22**  
0900-1200 hours

**November 17-18-19**  
0900-1200 hours

**December**  
No Training