

Questions?

Federal Emergency Management Agency
United States Fire Administration
Emergency Management Institute
Independent Study Office
16825 South Seton Avenue
Emmitsburg, MD 21727
Phone: (301) 447-1200
Web site:
www.training.fema.gov/EMIWEB/IS



Remember, share the
information you learn in this
course with family and friends
to make your home and
community a safer place to live.

Household Hazardous Materials



A Guide for Citizens

Produced by the Federal Emergency Management Agency and
the United States Fire Administration



Introduction

This course will introduce you to household hazardous materials and things you can do to protect yourself and your family from injury or death.

Even though you may not realize it, most American families have become dependent upon the daily use of chemical products in our homes. Many of these chemical products require special handling, storage and disposal because they can be hazardous to our health and environment.

Dangers from chemical products depend greatly on the individuals using them. Chemicals are safe to use when people read the directions and use them correctly.

This course is completely web-based and contains interactive activities.

You can take the course at your own pace from the comfort of your own home. It will take 1 to 3 hours to complete all the units and take the final exam.

What will you learn?

In the 1st unit you will learn about basic chemical and physical properties, the ways chemicals enter your body, and the effects chemicals have on your body.

In the 2nd and 3rd units you will learn about: cleaning products, lead, mercury, gasoline, compressed gases, carbon monoxide, medical supplies, chlorine, pesticides, and much much more.

The last two units cover labels, personal protective equipment, proper disposal methods, preventive measures to take before natural disasters, and less toxic alternatives.

Where to enroll

To enroll in the course go to www.training.fema.gov/EMIWEB/IS/

Click on the list of available courses. From this list select IS-55 to complete the course on-line. A certificate will be issued if you pass the final exam with 75% or better.



In 2001,
92% of the
two million
poison
exposures
reported to
poison control
centers
occurred in
the home.

