MISSISSIPPI EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY
MISSISSIPPI OFFICE OF HOMELAND SECURITY

NEWS

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE **March 26, 2003**

SEVEN COUNTIES AWARDED HAZARDOUS MATERIALS PREPAREDNESS GRANT

(Jackson, MS) — Mississippi Emergency Management Agency (MEMA) Director Robert Latham today announced grant awards to seven counties for hazardous materials preparedness. The grants will assist the Local Emergency Planning Committees (LEPC) in Claiborne, Hancock, Kemper, Lowndes, Newton, Tunica and Yazoo Counties with prevention, mitigation and public education about hazardous chemicals in their communities.

"We are pleased to be able to award funds for all seven of the grant applications received by LEPCs throughout the state," said MEMA Director Robert Latham. "These funds require no local match and are available to LEPCs to provide hazardous materials training for emergency responders and educational materials for the public."

The funds are provided by the U.S. Department of Transportation and State of Mississippi under the Hazardous Materials Emergency Preparedness Grant program. The grants awarded are:

Claiborne County LEPC	$ 7,700
Hancock County LEPC	$ 3,500
Kemper County LEPC	$ 2,900
Lowndes County LEPC	$10,000
Newton County LEPC	$10,000
Tunica County LEPC	$10,000
Yazoo County LEPC	$ 5,855

Local Emergency Planning Committees will have an additional opportunity to apply for 2004 Hazardous Materials Emergency Preparedness Grants in late summer.

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