The United States Environmental Protection Agency is proud to present the following training courses:

Methamphetamine Laboratory Training Program:
First Responder Awareness and Operations

The Problem...

The clandestine production of methamphetamine is growing at an alarming rate across the country. Clandestine methamphetamine laboratories (meth labs) range from crude makeshift operations to highly sophisticated facilities. They can be set up almost anywhere and are often found in private residences, apartments, trailers, automobiles, campgrounds, and hotel and motel rooms. The rise in the number of meth labs stems from the availability of precursor chemicals and the increasing popularity, ease of manufacture, low production cost, and high profits from the drugs. EPA recognizes that meth labs pose a significant threat to human health and the environment and strives to ensure that first responders are well prepared to respond to these labs.

The Solution...

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is committed to working with first responders who encounter meth labs. EPA developed a training curricula on First Responder Awareness and Operations to help first responders gain a better understanding of the health risks posed by meth labs, promote awareness of the hazards, and improve local response capabilities.

The Training...

The hazardous materials First Responder—Awareness and Operations level courses were developed to meet the training needs of public safety personnel, environmental health officials, and others who may encounter or be called to the scene of a meth lab or abandoned chemicals associated with the production of methamphetamine.

FIRST RESPONDER— AWARENESS

First responders at the awareness level are trained to recognize meth labs and clandestine methamphetamine hazardous waste abandonment sites, isolate the area immediately involved, and make appropriate notifications to ensure an efficient and effective response.

FIRST RESPONDER—OPERATIONS

First responders at the operations level are trained to respond to incidents in a defensive fashion within existing resources and capabilities to contain releases from a safe distance, to keep releases from spreading, and to prevent exposures to nearby persons, property, or environment.

EPA uses a combination of classroom presentations and exercises designed to provide those skills necessary to safely manage initial environmental responses to meth labs.

First Responder Awareness and Operations
Course meets the requirements of Title 29, Code of Federal Regulation, 1910.120, Title 40, Code of Federal Regulations, 311. This training program does NOT meet the requirements of HAZWOPER, CLANWOPER, or any DEA clandestine laboratory certification program.