



U.S. ARMY  
CHEMICAL MATERIALS AGENCY

# U.S. Army Umatilla Chemical Depot

Public Affairs Office (541) 564-5312/5418

## News Release

**Contact:** Mary A. Binder or Jim Hackett

**Date:** Feb. 17, 2004

**Time:** 7:30 a.m.

## Depot siren test Feb. 18

**Umatilla Chemical Depot, Hermiston, Ore.** – Actual emergency siren sounds will be tested at the Umatilla Chemical Depot during the noontime hour, Wednesday, Feb. 18.

Everyone on the depot will hear the actual siren sounds that would be used in emergency and security incidents, not the Westminster chimes test exercise sounds. The sirens will be sounded at 30-second intervals.

No off-post sirens will be sounded. However, residents or passersby hearing Wednesday's siren test are not required to take any action. This will be only a test of the depot's siren systems.

Depot officials said the actual siren sounds are being set off to make everyone on the depot aware of the actual siren tones and to ensure they work properly in conjunction with a scheduled "tabletop" emergency preparedness exercise. The tabletop exercise will test the emergency decision-making process without actual response activities.

The off-post communities have been notified about the test.

Although this is only an exercise, such events are excellent opportunities for individuals – whether at home or work – to stop and ask themselves if they, their families, loved ones or coworkers know what to do if an actual emergency or security incident were to occur. Chemical Stockpile Emergency Preparedness officials recommend residents develop emergency plans for their homes and businesses, and in these times of heightened security, be vigilant about their surroundings.

Anyone needing more information about emergency preparedness should phone the following CSEPP toll-free numbers: 1-877-367-2737 in Morrow and Umatilla counties, Ore., and 1-800-841-7953 in Benton County, Wash.

Citizens should report any suspicious activities in and around the depot to their local police departments or the depot at (541) 564-8632.

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