

DISASTER RECOVERY GUIDE:

Individual & Chemical Industry Preparedness



PURPOSE

This guide provides essential tips and resources for disaster recovery, tailored for both individuals and the chemical industry. It outlines steps to ensure safety, minimize losses, and facilitate a smoother recovery process.

PERSONAL DISASTER RECOVERY

Immediate Actions

- **Safety First:** Ensure that you, your family, and pets are safe. Follow evacuation orders and avoid hazardous areas.
- **Assess Damage:** Once it is safe, assess your property for structural damage, water intrusion, and electrical hazards. Do not enter buildings that may be unsafe.
- **Report Damages:** Contact your insurance company as soon as possible to report damages and start a claim. Document all damages with photos and keep a record of interactions with insurers.

Essential Resources

- **FEMA Assistance:** Apply for federal disaster relief at www.disasterassistance.gov or by calling 1-800-621-3362.
- **Local Support:** Reach out to local shelters, food banks, and relief organizations for immediate assistance if needed.
- **Mental Health Support:** Disasters can be overwhelming. Contact the Disaster Distress Helpline at 1-800-985-5990 for counseling and emotional support.

Financial Recovery

- **Apply for Assistance:** FEMA, Red Cross, and local government programs may offer financial assistance for recovery.
- **Contact Your Lenders:** If you're facing financial hardship, reach out to mortgage lenders, utility companies, and creditors to discuss relief options like deferred payments.



For any further questions contact:

Sarah F. Williams
Director, Technical & Safety
Swilliams@socma.org
Phone: 571.348.5108

CHEMICAL INDUSTRY DISASTER RECOVERY

Immediate Actions

- **Emergency Response:** Activate your company's emergency response plan. Ensure that all employees are accounted for and safe. Evacuate or shelter in place as necessary.
- **Assess and Mitigate Hazards:** Secure or contain any hazardous materials that may pose a risk. Notify emergency services and regulatory agencies if there are spills, leaks, or other hazardous conditions.
- **Damage Assessment:** Conduct a preliminary assessment of the facility to identify any structural damage, equipment failures, or compromised containment systems.

Essential Resources

- **Notification and Reporting:** Inform relevant authorities, such as the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA), of any incidents involving hazardous materials.
- **Document and Record:** Keep detailed records of all incidents, response actions, and damages. This is essential for regulatory compliance and insurance claims.

Financial Recovery

- **Site Cleanup and Decontamination:** Engage specialized cleanup services to manage hazardous waste and contaminated materials. Ensure compliance with environmental regulations during the cleanup process.
- **Equipment and System Inspections:** Have all equipment, piping, and containment systems inspected and repaired by qualified professionals before resuming operations.
- **Employee Safety Training:** Conduct safety training for employees on new procedures, equipment, and safety measures implemented during recovery.

Contacts for Assistance

- **Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA):** 1-800-621-3362
- **Disaster Distress Helpline:** 1-800-985-5990
- **Chemical Emergency Response: CHEMTREC:** 1-800-424-9300, **National Response Center (USCG):** 1-800-424-8802
- **Environmental Protection Agency (EPA):** Contact local EPA office for spill reporting and environmental compliance.



socma

SOLUTIONS FOR SPECIALTIES