

Broome County
Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC)
LEPC MEETING MINUTES
4/16/2026

- Introduction of guests/new members
Attendees: Cortni Williams, Katie Pierce, Sierra Kunig, Joshua Nytych, Michael Bender, Pamela Rexer, Caitlin Cavanaugh, Linda Taylor, Adam Soden
Online: Mike Heide, Kamaran Fisher, David Tinklepaugh, Jade Ebling, Stephanie Brewer, Jim Shadduck, Steve Smith
- Approval of minutes 2/19/2026: Motion- Josh Nytych, 2nd- Cortni Williams
- New Email Address to contact LEPC: broomelepc@broomecountyny.gov
- Correspondence /Announcements – Tier 2 Reports Received
Penske Truck Leasing – 2/28/26 Hardcopy received (e-plan filed)
We have accessed over 100 tier 2 plans from E-plan this year.

Old Business

1) Drills and Training Schedule 2026 – Updates and New Events

- American Red Cross – Sound the Alarm Event 4/25/26 (Delayed)
- SUNY Broome Mock Disaster Drill – May 1, 2026
- Asset Distribution Exercise – Health Dept/Emergency Services – May 29, 2026
- Binghamton University- Full Scale Exercise Next May 2027
 - ❖ Harpur’s Ferry- MCI Drill April 19th (Internally)
- NYSEG TTX on May 7th

2) Committee Updates:

- **Health, Human and Animal Needs** – Meeting held on 3/20/26

❖ **Health Department**

For the week ending 3/7/26, Broome County saw an increase in Flu B. Typically, Flu A peaks in December/January, Flu B peaks in 2nd half of flu season. Broome County flu cases for the year are recorded at 3,077. Statewide, our Flu season peaked in December. In the central NY region, flu is currently higher than COVID-19 and RSV rates.

Broome County has seen an increase in Shigella cases, which is an gastrointestinal infection that causes diarrhea and stomach pain. Cases are more common among those that may not have access to sanitary conditions, such as those that are unhoused. More information about Shigellosis can be found [here](#) and [here](#).

A federal judge has temporarily halted RFK Jr.’s vaccine recommendations. New York State has been following previous vaccine recommendations (before federal recommendations changed). That information can be found [here](#). Anyone who would still like to get a flu vaccine should refer to their healthcare provider.

❖ **Hospital Emergency Preparedness / Mutual Assistance**

Patrick Dewing is the contact for Guthrie-Lourdes (Office: (607)756-3586; Cell:(607)644-0660;

Email: PatrickE.Dewing@Guthrie.Org)

There is a MRSE exercise on March 24th and hospital will contact BCHD (Jules) as a part of this exercise.

❖ **Social Services / Housing – DSS**

Broome County Dept Social Services is involved in a new housing access pilot program in conjunction with Tompkins Community Action. This program will provide 16 vouchers to assist those who need housing in Broome County.

❖ **Vulnerable Populations / Access and Functional Needs**

New York State Independent Living Council Emergency Preparedness Committee is hosting Amanda Schultz (DSHES) for a

presentation on Next Gen 911 on 3/26 from 1-2pm. If someone is interested in attending, contact Sue Ruff (susanr@stic-cil.org). STIC has a community meal on 4/1/26 with free food, clothing, hygiene products. 3. Open Doors Program – helps people get from nursing home settings to independent permanent housing.

- **Training/Exercises** – Meeting held 4/15/26
 - TRANSCAER Train
 - ❖ Pam will be reaching out about doing a training next year at the railyard
 - Preparing for Weather Emergencies
 - Tier 2 Report Training
 - NYS Chemical Bulk Storage
 - Radioactive Materials
 - We are looking for more ideas and participants for the committee

3) **2026 LEPC PLANS for Committees:**

- **Infrastructure**
- **Public Safety**
 - Mike Bender and Cortni Williams will invite individuals to LEPC and try to create the committees based on attendees

4) **Tier 2 Reports Due on March 1, 2026 for Year 2025 - Update**

- Reports to be sent to State Emergency Management, LEPC and local Fire Departments
- NYS SERC and Broome County LEPC accept reports from E-Plan
- Local Fire Departments may require paper copies

New Business

5) **OSHA Hazard Communication Standard: 4 MONTH EXTENSION ANNOUNCED ON JANUARY 15, 2026.** Phase-in dates of compliance:

a. **For Manufacturers:**

- For Substances: January 19, 2026 Updated SDS and container labeling **EXTENDED TO MAY 19, 2026**
- For Mixtures: July 19, 2027 Updated SDS and container labeling **EXTENDED TO NOVEMBER 19 2027**

b. **For Employers** – container labeling, employee training, and updated Hazard Communication program

- For Substances: July 20, 2026 **EXTENDED TO NOVEMBER 20 2026**
- For Mixtures: January 19, 2028 **EXTENDED TO MAY 19 2027**

6) **Upcoming Regulations**

- a. **NY expands workplace violence prevention programs in Health Care** – applies to General Hospitals and Nursing Homes in the state and becomes effective 9/1/2026
- b. **US DOT PHMSA published a Proposed Rule (H-215R) to align the HazMat Regulations with international standards:**

The HM-215R rule proposes:

- Additions and revisions to the Hazardous Materials Table (172.101).
- Modifications to several hazmat special provisions (172.102).
- New provisions for sodium-ion batteries.
- New state-of-charge provisions for certain lithium and sodium-ion batteries transported by air.

- Updated emergency response information for UN 3536 lithium battery shipments.
- Revisions to the organic peroxides table (173.225).
- Amendments to provisions for the transport of tetramethylammonium hydroxide (TMAH).
- Adding exceptions for ammonium nitrate.
- Adding a new special provision for nitrocellulose membrane filters (UN 3270).
- The extension of a relief provided for Division 2.2 non-flammable and non-poisonous compressed gases (limited quantity provisions).

c. EPA Proposed Rule to officially end the use of paper Hazardous Waste

Manifests: Following a 2-year transition period, Generators, Transporters and Receiving facilities will have to use the online “e-Manifest” system.

7) April is National Safe Digging Month- Williams Company shared for others to push education if possible.

8) Strangulation is a crucial, often fatal form of domestic violence in New York. Various partners in Broome County have created a Committee to address education through first responders about the signs of strangulation. (Dispatchers, Law Enforcement, Fire, EMS)

Motion to Adjourn: Josh Nytech, 2nd Cortni Williams

Next Meeting June 18, 2026 at Public Safety Facility (and Virtual)

Committee Meetings: May 22, 2026 - Health, Human and Animal Needs