

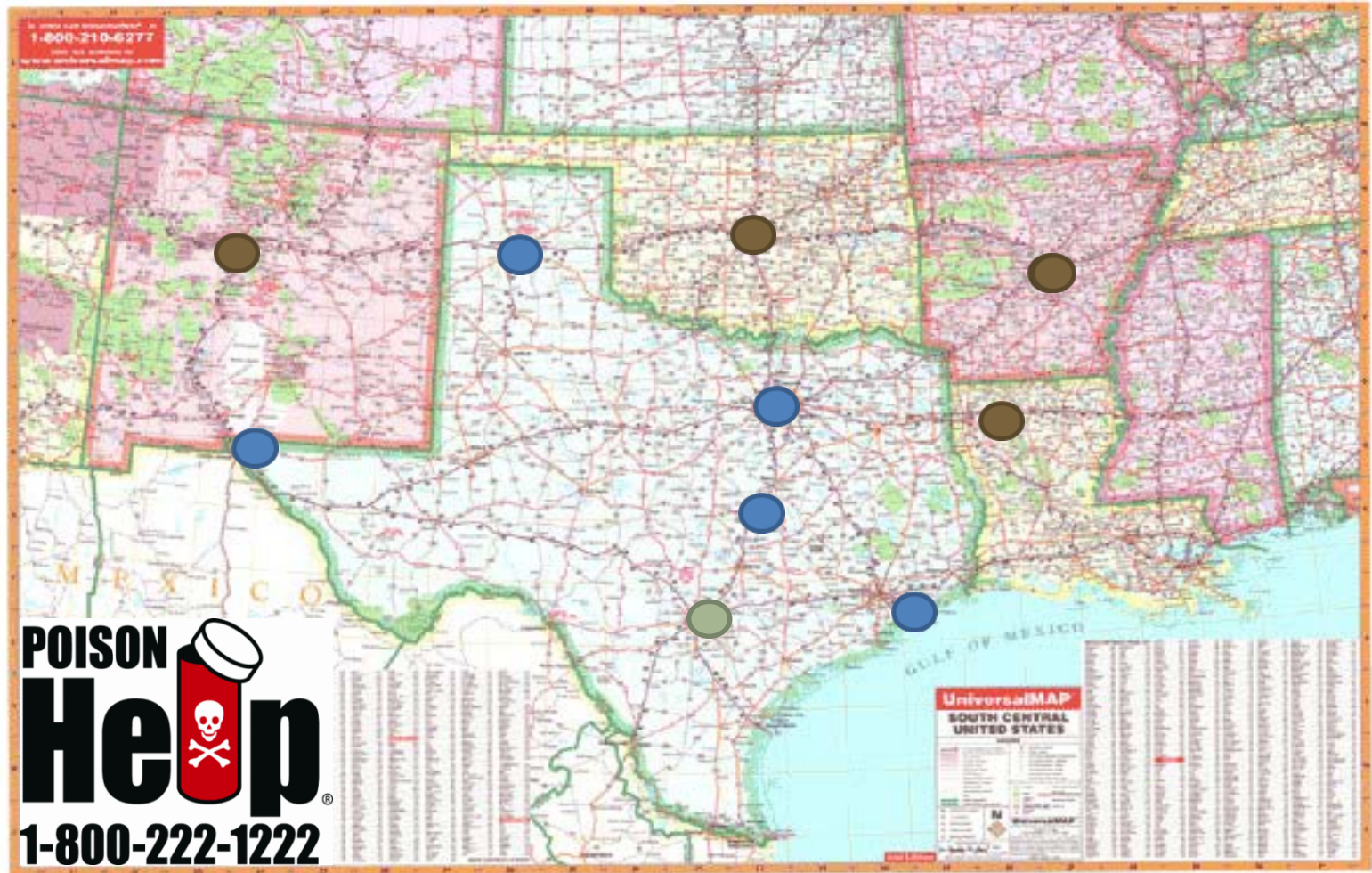
Poison Control Centers: a HAZMAT Incident Resource



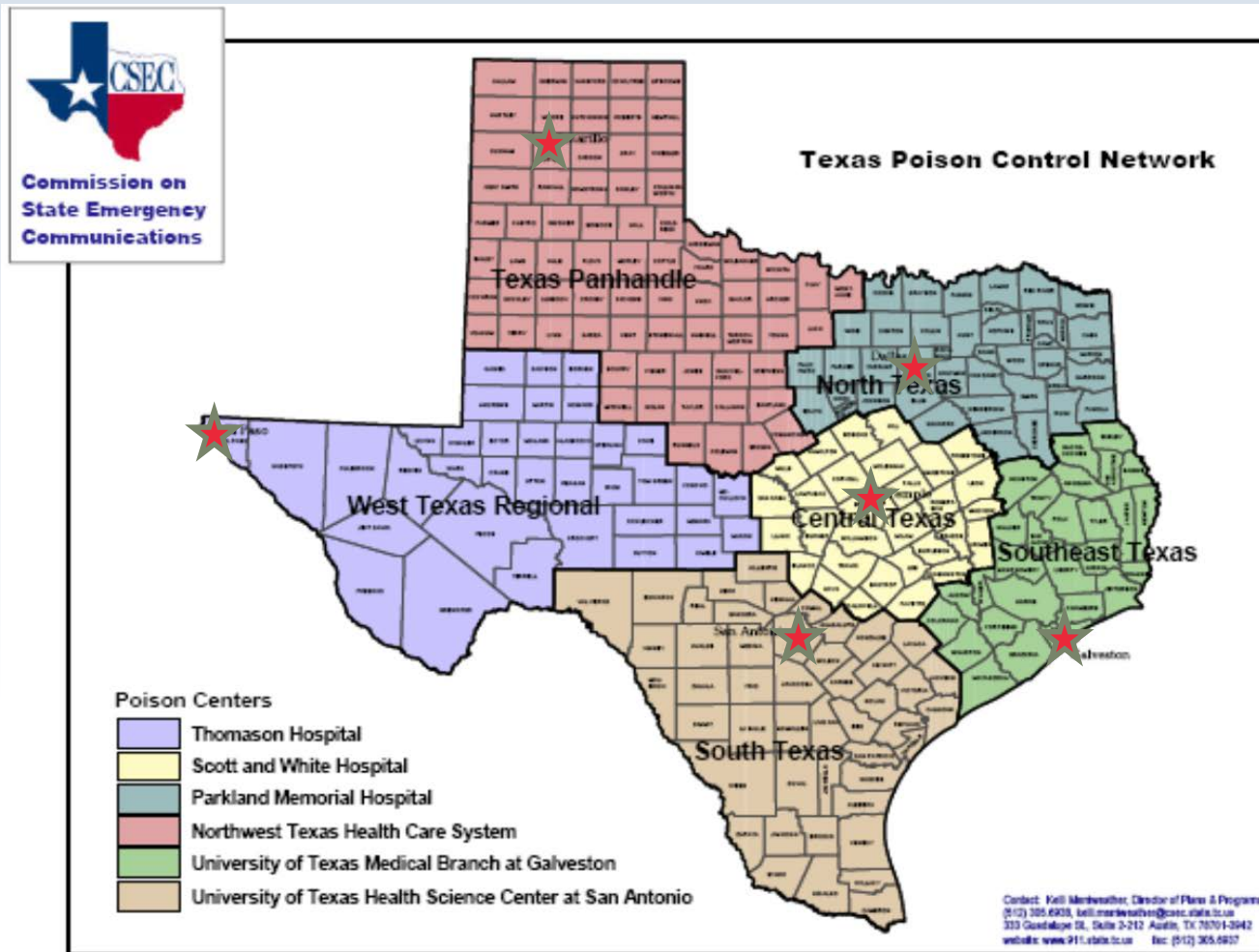
Poison Centers in the US



Poison Centers in EPA Region 6



Poison Centers in Texas



PCC Operational Facts



- 60 years of advice on poisonings
- 55 PCCs in the U.S. covering all 50 states
- Funded by federal/state/private sectors
- Service both the general public and medical professionals
- PCCs have expertise in:
 - public health issues
 - collective poisoning incidents
 - hazardous materials events



PCC Operational Facts



- Operate 24/7
 - Single national contact #: 1-800-222-1222
 - Call routing/overflow agreements with other centers
 - Staffed by physicians, pharmacists, nurses, and biomedical scientists with specialized training in toxicology
 - Multiple language capabilities, including hearing-impaired
 - Access to multiple databases on chemical toxicity
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PCC Cost Savings

- PCCs provide a primary resource for poisoning information
 - Help reduce hospital visits
 - Past estimate: *\$1.8 BILLION / Year saved in medical costs/lost productivity*
 - Past Estimate: \$13.39 /\$1.00 in funding
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PCC Real-time Poison Data

National Poison Data System (NPDS)

- PCCs upload data to NPDS every **8 minutes**
- Poison information and toxic surveillance database
- Real time monitoring:
 - unusual poisoning patterns
 - chemical exposures
 - emerging public health hazards



PCC Emergency Response Support

- Available 24/7
- 1-800 number for public information
- Can interoperate with 911 or 311
- Partners with CDC, EPA, ATSDR, and State Health to augment emergency response
- Regional Response Team - Activation Guidance in place for Region 6



PCC Emergency Response Support

Advantages in Emergency Response:

- Improved public response for health issues
 - Streamlined public information sharing
 - Takes pressure off of the IC and first responders
 - Reduces hospital surge – assesses patient from home
 - Multiple languages including hearing impaired
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Macdona Union Pacific Train Derailment

- June 28, 2004, San Antonio, TX. Release of >60 tons of chlorine



- PCC activated to address public health questions
 - 1st Time PCC's activated nationally to assist EPA OSC
-

Deepwater Horizon-Gulf Oil Spill

- April 20-July 15, 2010
- Ongoing information on effects occurring
- BP contracted with RMPDIC with specific #
- AAPCC/Regional centers “at Table”
- 800 # posted on BP response website
- Daily situation reports (Louisiana PC)
- Resident and Clinician Fact Sheets



Magnablend Fire

- October 3, 2011 Waxahachie, TX. Chemical blending and custom packaging plant
- Fire destroyed plant, contained in eight hours, smoldered ~120 hours (3 days and 2 nights)
- 225,000 lbs of chemicals-hydrocarbons
- > 1,000 people evacuated



Magnablend Fire

- Immediate calls that day
 - Symptoms mainly coughing, throat irritation, bad taste
 - Texas Poison Center Network (TPCN) alerted for immediate event
 - Information summary created/ updated
 - Daily Situation Report (SITREP)-case data to TPCN/DSHS
 - Response “white paper” developed for anticipated “after the event” calls
 - Public and Social Networking
 - Facebook© page referral to PCC 800#
 - EHS Research Analyst created GoogleMap©
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West Fertilizer Company Plant Explosion



- April 17, 2013, 19:50 - West, TX
- Storage and distribution facility
 - Anhydrous Ammonia-110,000 lbs (2012)
 - Ammonium Nitrate-540,000 lbs (2012)
- Fire → Explosion (2.1 magnitude tremor)
- 15 fatalities, ~ 200 injured

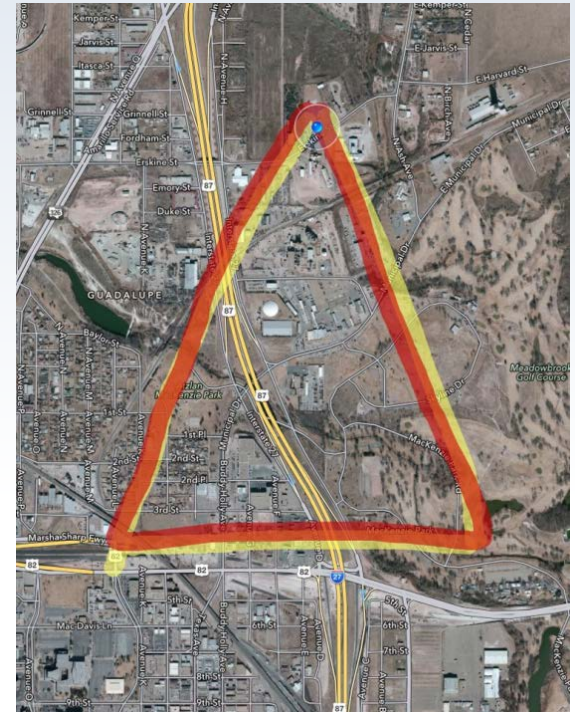


West Fertilizer Company Plant Explosion

- 1st Call – 4/17 21:14, less than 2 hours after event
 - Symptoms: Shortness of breath, cough, eye & throat irritation
 - Texas Poison Center Network (TPCN) alerted
 - Received calls from Travis County up to Dallas County
 - Created/updated Information summary sheet
 - Relayed case data to IC for Daily Situation Report (SITREP)
 - Relayed case data to DSHS
 - Facebook© page referral to PC 800#
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Bayer Crop Science Chemical Leak

- May 8, 2013, 19:40 – Lubbock, TX
- Alarm-Leaking tank valve: hydrogen chloride
- Threat: moisture reaction to form HCL
- Hazards: corrosive, inhalation
- Evacuation notice - 200 families
- Clear May 9 at 1600



Bayer CSF Leak-Poison Center Activity

- Texas Poison Control Network (TPCN):
 - 6 PCCs in Texas
 - TPCN alerted for immediate event
 - City sent callers to 311, 911 very busy
 - Information summary sheet created/updated
 - PCCs – general information only, no exposure cases
 - Case information/data distributed to TPCN/DSHS
-

PCC Advantages to an Incident Response

- 24/7 access through the 1-800-222-1222
 - Streamlined public information sharing
 - Improved public response to health issues
 - Quick and efficient technical medical advice
 - Reduces hospital surge
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PCC Advantages to an Incident Response

- Increased consultation - ATSDR Regional Office
 - Improved data quality – state/national surveillance capability
 - Documents medical data associated with the response (NPDS)
 - ***All at no added cost to the response***
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Activating a PCC

**How to activate a PCC
to aid a hazmat incident:**

Just Call 1-800-222-1222



Cell Phones:

- Automatically routed to PCC matching the cell phone area code
 - Caller can be routed back to the appropriate state/PCC
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Programmed in Cell Phone?



Who Can I Call for HELP?



TEXAS POISON CENTER NETWORK

*Your source
of HELP for:*

**Poisonings
Or
Toxic Substance Emergencies,
including during
*Natural Disasters or Terrorist Events.***

IF YOU SUSPECT THAT YOU HAVE BEEN EXPOSED
TO A POISON OR TOXIC SUBSTANCE, CALL FOR **HELP**.

The call is free...peace of mind is priceless!

Non-Emergency Questions?

Contact:

Louisiana Poison Control Center

Mark Ryan, RPh - Director

LSU Health Sciences Center Shreveport

mryan@lsuhsc.edu



Non-Emergency Questions?

Contact:

Arkansas Poison & Drug Info Center

Howell Foster, PharmD - Director

UAMS – Little Rock

FosterHowellR@uams.edu



Non-Emergency Questions?

Contact:

Oklahoma Poison Control Center
Scott Schaeffer, D.Ph., DABAT - Director
OUHSC – Oklahoma City
Scott-Schaeffer@ouhsc.edu



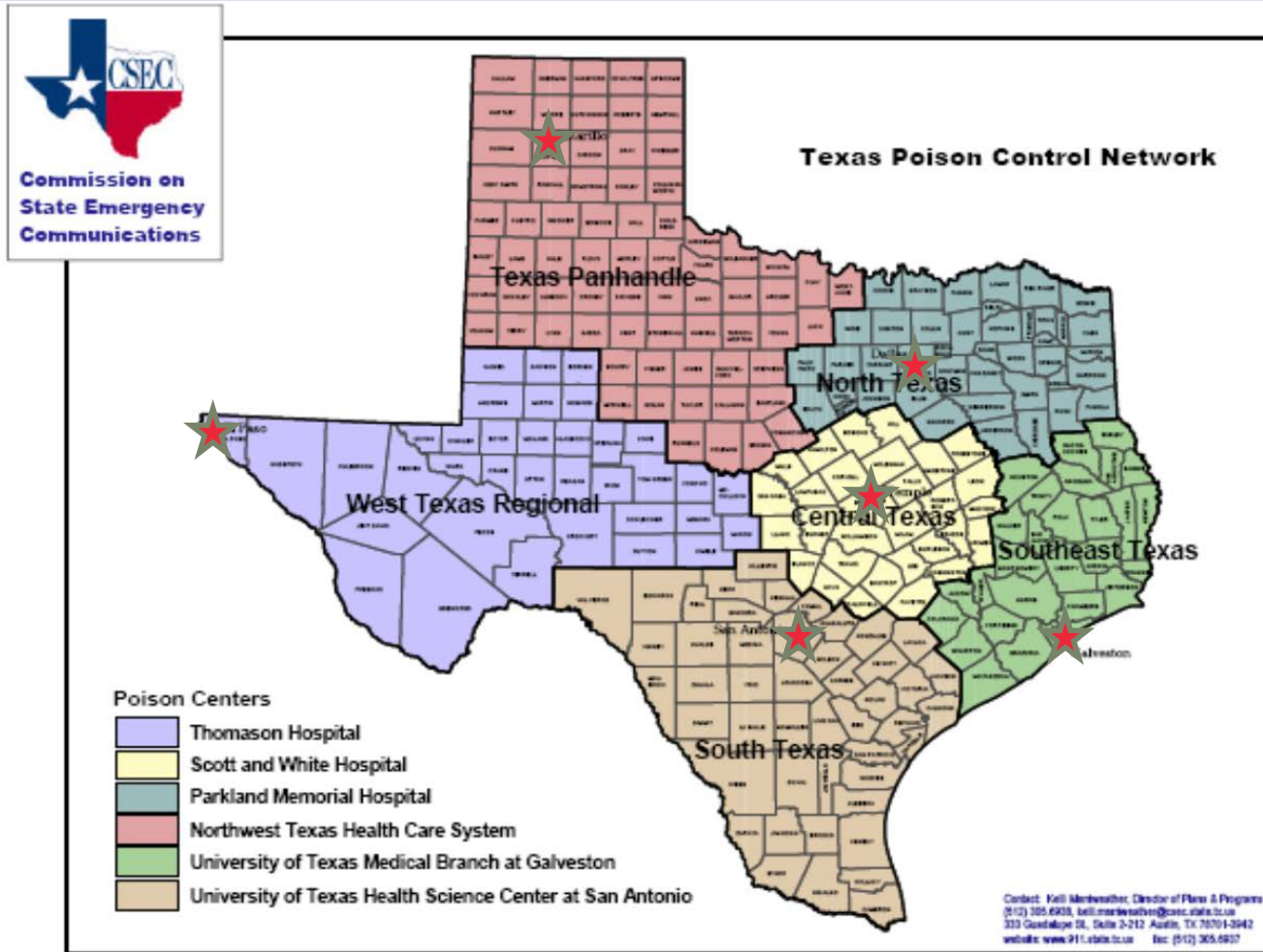
Non-Emergency Questions?

Contact:

New Mexico Poison and Drug Information Center
Susan Smolinske, PharmD - Director
University of New Mexico - Albuquerque
SSmolinske@salud.unm.edu



Poison Centers in Texas



Non-Emergency Questions?

Contact Region Texas Poison Network:

Texas Panhandle – TTUHSC Amarillo
Jeanie Jaramillo, PharmD - Director
(806) 414-9299 ; jeanie.jaramillo@ttuhsc.edu

West Texas – UMC El Paso,
Salvador Baeza, PharmD - Director
915-534-3800; SBaeza@umcelpaso.org

North Texas – PHHS Dallas
Melody Gardner, RN - Director
melody.gardner@phhs.org

Central Texas – Scott & White
David Baker, PharmD, DBAT – Director
254-724-7409; david.baker@bswhealth.org

South Texas – UTHSC San Antonio,
Lizette Villarreal, MA – Interim Director
210-450-5100; villarrealc@uthscsa.edu

Southeast Texas – UTMB Galveston,
Jean Cleary, PharmD - Director
409-772-3306; jcole@UTMB.EDU

