

FORM A COMMUNITY REASSESSMENT GROUP

Who will reassess chemical site hazards in your community? In each locale, the situation will be different. Who cares about and understands this issue where you live? We wrote this guide on the assumption that a group of individuals will come together to conduct a reassessment of chemical hazards and the need to reduce them. In some hometowns, this effort may be led by the fire chief. In others, the chairman of the health board may drive the process. In many instances, we expect that civic groups will initiate the process, and persuade school board members, hospital officials, local emergency responders, facility owners and operators and local elected officials to join together in a reassessment of chemical vulnerabilities and opportunities for eliminating or reducing them.

Later in this guide, we discuss in more depth some of the people and institutions with the power or responsibility to reduce chemical hazards. For now, we will assume that you have brought together at least an initial group to begin this work, and that your group is ready to take a hard look at the chemical vulnerabilities that may confront your community.