



NORTHLAND
COMMUNITY & TECHNICAL COLLEGE

On October 17, 1986, the federal “Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act (SARA),” was enacted into law. The primary purpose of this federal Act is to extend the superfund for the cleanup of hazardous waste sites throughout the country. But, this Act also contains provisions on planning for hazardous chemical emergencies and on allowing citizens the right-to-know about hazardous chemicals in their communities. The “Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act,” commonly referred to as SARA Title III, was established out of a growing concern over the safe handling, use, and disposal of hazardous chemicals. Many aspects of modern technology involve the use of chemicals, which have hazardous properties. Over a half million hazardous chemicals are known, and the number continues to increase.

Emergency planning can help prevent serious hazardous chemical accidents and enable timely and effective response in the event of a hazardous release. For example, suppose a facility located near a residential area has an accidental spill of a hazardous chemical. With proper planning, the public and the appropriate response personnel, such as fire, police, and emergency medical, are aware of the potential dangers and have developed a plan to handle this emergency with a minimum of adverse health and environmental consequences. SARA Title III provides the mechanism for gathering information on potential chemical hazards present in a community and provides guidance on how to prepare an effective emergency plan.

The Tier Two form is used in the State of Minnesota to report chemicals and quantities under this standard. These submissions are due each year by March 1. The Emergency Planning and Community Right to Know Act (EPCRA) program office will invoice the College once the Tier II has been received. The College can contact the program office via telephone (651) 296-2233 or online at <http://www.epcra.state.mn.us>

The Community Right-To-Know program applies to all College buildings.

The Safety Officer is responsible for the Community Right to Know program for the College.

Northwest Service Cooperative surveyed the College to identify chemicals present in quantities over 10,000 pounds, as well as chemicals present on the “Extremely Hazardous Substance List” in amounts exceeding threshold planning quantities. Walk through surveys of identified areas were completed by NWSC in order to evaluate current locations and quantities of chemicals present.

A. Currently, the reportable chemicals are listed in the Program Review.

- Go online <http://www.epcra.state.mn.us/turnaround/login.asp> to access, revise, and print Tier II report for each College building.
- Tier II forms (signed originals) should be sent to the Minnesota Emergency Planning and Community Right to Know Act (EPCRA) program office at the following address:
- The EPCRA program office will invoice the College according to the number of reportable chemicals as follows:

<u>Quantities</u>	<u>Fees</u>
1-9 chemicals	\$ 25.00
10-49 chemicals	\$ 100.00
50 > chemicals	\$1000.00

The College in the completion of the Tier II reports that must be submitted to the EPCRA on an annual basis.

Additional recommendations to improve the Community Right-To-Know program are provided to the College in annual Program Reviews.

Northland has a proactive approach in the Community Right-To-Know by involving the Local Emergency Planning Commission (L.E.P.C.) and emergency response personnel (eg. fire department) to survey the facility for other hazardous materials.