Rail Car Incident Response is an eight-hour, awareness-level training program developed to educate rural emergency responders on freight rail car incidents involving hazardous materials.

Because most freight rail traffic traverses rural areas, it is important that rural responders, especially those in resource-limited areas, understand the dangers and unique hazards these incidents present. Although safeguards are in place to prevent hazardous materials from causing harm under normal transportation, storage, handling and use, if any of these safeguards are circumvented or removed there is the potential for great harm. Due to the variety and volume of materials that can be involved in a freight rail car incident, it is imperative that emergency responders be well trained.

Participants will gain an understanding of potential hazards at a train derailment, the properties of specific chemicals, and various incident control, confinement, and containment mitigation techniques. Upon completion of this course, participants should be better prepared to recognize and characterize different types of freight rail cars, potential leaks, and courses of action to be taken based on initial assessment without endangering the health and safety of the responders.

**Key elements of the course:**

- Recognizing the chemical being transported and the manner in which the chemical must be considered in an emergency situation
- Identifying the design, construction, components, and markings of rail tank cars
- Explaining the incident to determine the damage to the car, potential hazards, and appropriate protective actions
- Recognizing possible mitigation strategies for breached freight cars
- Assisting with incident management
- Identifying Federal, state and private sector resources available to assist in the response effort
This course also addresses:

- Application of the D.E.C.I.D.E. decision-making process
- Characteristics of the rail/freight industry
- Key regulations regarding rail car incidents
- Basic chemical terminology pertinent to freight rail car incidents
- Application of the Incident Command System (ICS) in freight rail car incidents
- Review of specific freight rail car incident case studies

Who should attend:

Emergency responders, especially fire and law enforcement, as well as emergency managers and freight/rail industry representatives who want to gain a basic working knowledge are encouraged to attend. Hazardous materials technicians may attend but content is designed at the awareness level.

To schedule this training in your jurisdiction please contact the RDPC at 877-855-RDPC (7372) or visit www.ruraltraining/training/request and complete the online form. This training is tuition free for qualifying rural jurisdictions and was developed by The University of Findlay, a member of the RDPC.

www.ruraltraining.org