

## News Release

8/12/09

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## Quad-Cities-Wide Emergency Response Exercise Planned for Aug. 13

An emergency response exercise involving a simulated hazardous materials release with mass casualties is planned for the morning of Thursday, August 13, 2009 in Rock Island near the viaduct (24<sup>th</sup> Street and the riverfront) and on the Rock Island Arsenal. This is one of the efforts for Quad Cities' agencies to practice how to work cooperatively in the case of a major emergency in the area.

The emergency exercise will involve many Quad Cities agencies including the local cities and counties, the area hospitals and ambulance services, and other services such as the blood center and FBI.

**The public should not be alarmed if they hear sirens or see smoke coming from the Rock Island Arsenal or in downtown Rock Island near the riverfront on the morning of Thursday, August 13 - this is part of the exercise.**

Local agencies and corporations have also been notified of the exercise including the three railroads in the area, local corporations near the affected area, the Corps of Engineers, and the Coast Guard.

A press briefing may be held the morning of Thursday, August 13 to explain the emergency response exercise. More information will be provided on Thursday.