

# Typical Local Roles During a Hazardous Materials Disaster

Agency/Center	Responsibility
Local public health department	Safeguards the public when food or water supplies may be affected or when dwellings may become contaminated.
Chemist and toxicologist from the local public health department	May provide advice on toxicity and personnel protection, as well as recommendations to the incident commander regarding actions to reduce public health hazards.
Public works department	May assist in containment and cleanup if they have adequate protective clothing and equipment.