

The Office of Technical Assistance and Technology works to support the growth of environmentally responsible manufacturing and production in the Commonwealth by encouraging businesses to better comply with environmental regulations, implement cost effective toxics use reduction, energy efficiency, water conservation, and other sustainable practices.

Through a grant from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (U.S EPA), the Massachusetts Office of Technical Assistance (OTA) partnered with Regional Planning Agencies to conduct Chemical Safety and Climate Change Preparedness workshops. These workshops are designed to build awareness and educate Local and Regional Emergency Planning Committees, first responders, businesses and community stakeholders about toxic chemicals in their communities. The project brings businesses and municipalities together to build models for incorporating toxics use reduction into emergency preparedness to reduce the risk of industrial accidents.

Trainings are co-hosted by OTA and Massachusetts regional planning agencies in partnership with Local and Regional Emergency Planning Committees.

Participating in the workshops as presenters TNEC's Thomas Estabrook and David Coffey spoke to the group about Chemical Incident and Emergency Response. Topics included; Pre-planning by identifying and addressing historic problem areas, items to consider, focusing on the essential and creating an emergency response plan.