# Water Contaminant Information Tool (WCIT) Training

# What is WCIT?

- The Water Contaminant Information Tool (WCIT) is EPA's secure Web-based database of information on priority contaminants of concern for "all hazards" in drinking water and wastewater systems:
  - Developed in response to 9/11 attacks
  - Released in 2005
  - Describes contaminants that pose a serious threat if accidentally or intentionally introduced into water systems
  - Data are peer-reviewed and regularly updated
  - Data are specific to the needs of drinking water and wastewater systems

# WCIT Contents

- 805 contaminants of the highest concern if introduced into water systems

- Types of contaminants:
  - Pathogens
  - Chemical warfare agents
  - Toxins
  - Pesticides
  - Radiochemicals
  - Other toxic industrial chemicals

# WCIT Uses

- As an all-hazards response tool, WCIT can be used in response to:
  - Natural disasters
  - Accidents
  - Vandalism
  - Intentional acts
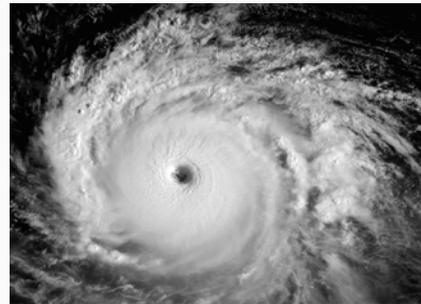
- WCIT provides detailed information on contaminants, as well as methods to detect, treat, and recover from contamination incidents

# Who can use WCIT?

- All of the information in WCIT is publically available online
- WCIT, as a comprehensive tool, is considered sensitive. Access is limited to:
  - EPA and other federal employees
  - Water and wastewater utilities
  - Public health officials and laboratories
  - Government laboratories
  - Certain water associations
  - Drinking water primacy agencies and their subsidiaries

# How can WCIT be used?

- Practical uses in planning
  - Tabletop exercises
  - Full-scale national exercises
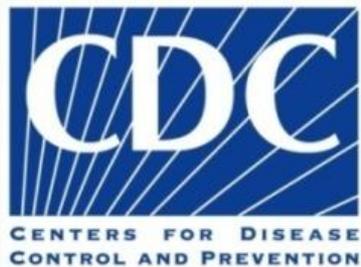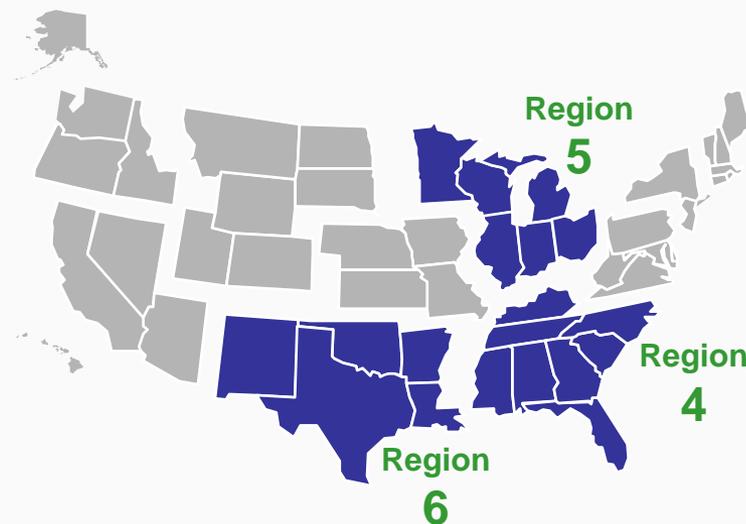
# How can WCIT be used?

- During response to an actual event
  - Laboratories: analytical methods
  - Medical and public health officials: diagnosis and treatment information
  - Utilities: information for identifying contamination and treating drinking water and wastewater
  - Emergency responders: field methods
  - Officials communicating with the public: reports on contaminants

# How can WCIT be used?

- After an incident
  - Data to assist in recovery and return to service:
    - Wastewater treatment
    - Infrastructure decontamination
    - Laboratory methods to confirm successful decontamination

# Live Demonstration

- Open your browser
- Navigate to https://cdx.epa.gov/
- Log In with your User ID and Password
- Select WCIT from the list of programs

# Contact Information

For more information, please contact:

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