

Sussex County Delaware

- ▶ Founded August 8, 1683
- ▶ Southern most County in Delaware, occupying 38 % of the State's land mass at 938 square miles
- ▶ A population of 255, 956 year round residents in 2022, which represents a 23 % increase since 2010
- ▶ Sussex County offers diverse sceneries:
- ▶ -25 miles of beachfront along the Atlantic Ocean which attracts an estimated 8.1 visitors annually
- ▶ -Deeply rooted agricultural traditions which utilize 40% of the County's land area

Overview of Tier II Manager Facility Information

- ▶ As of March 2024, there are 1018 active facilities in the Tier II database for Sussex County, ranging from retail fuel stations to the Invista plant, a former 43-acre DuPont Nylon Plant
- ▶ Over the past five years, there have been 217 facilities added to the database, a 27% increase. A majority of the increase has been due to infrastructure improvements, but also the addition of new businesses in industrial parks.
- ▶ The predominant chemical in the database is ammonia in refrigeration systems. These refrigeration systems are tied to the agriculture industry, particularly the poultry segment.

Success Stories of the Sussex County LEPC

- ▶ Two stories that are tied together because of the rapid area growth:
- ▶ The 27% increase in facilities over the past five years have caused concerns over the ability to coordinate the response preparedness and capabilities. The Sussex County LEPC has worked to increase the bi-monthly attendance from 15-20 attendees to 25-30 attendees.
- ▶ Sussex County is served by 21 community-based volunteer fire companies. The majority of the fire company members are trained to the minimum level of the HazMat Awareness standard by the Delaware State Fire School.
- ▶ HazMat Technician service is provided by the Delaware Department of Natural Resources.

Success Stories of the Sussex County LEPC

- ▶ Volunteer fire company leadership may change every year. Sussex County LEPC provides sign in credentials to each fire chief every March, enabling them to access Tier II information specific to their fire district.
- ▶ Since the volunteer fire companies are the initial responders to a HazMat scene, this offers the opportunity to pre-plan facilities of concern in their district.
- ▶ Even though continuous conversations are happening with the volunteer leadership about facilities in their district, the number of fire chiefs utilizing the Tier II login was almost nonexistent.
- ▶ Over the past few years, the number of fire companies at least performing an initial log in grown to 50%.