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News Release

*For Immediate Release*

**Health Department Employees Complete Homeland Security Training**

Lisa Lee and Amanda Bennett, and June Hethcoat, employees of the Springfield-Greene County Health Department, completed Homeland Security Training at the Center for Domestic Preparedness (CDP). CDP is operated by the United States Department of Homeland Security’s Federal Emergency Management Agency and offers the only federally-chartered Weapons of Mass Destruction (WMD) training in the nation.

These employees were selected as a part of a local response team to take part in this training that offers the best hands-on training for America's first responders. The focus of this training module was to increase the level of emergency preparedness of environmental health impacts of emergencies and disasters. The course modules included:

- Disaster management
- Responder safety
- Potable water, wastewater management and disposal
- Food safety
- Vector control and pest management
- Solid waste and hazardous materials
- Shelters
- Building assessment

The hands-on nature of the training enables responders to effectively prevent, respond to, and recover from real-world incidents involving acts of terrorism and other hazardous materials. This training ensures that responders gain critical skills and confidence to be better prepared to effectively respond to local incidents or potential WMD incidents.

"This opportunity provides Springfield-Greene County with additional knowledge and tools to effectively prepare for and respond to emergency situations. This will allow us to respond to the needs of the community in the event of this type of situation," says Karen Prescott, Environmental Services Administrator.

For more information contact:
Katie Towns-Jeter MPH
Public Information Administrator
417-874-1205