




# What's your catch?

## Dangers in dredging old bombs from the New Jersey ocean floor



- Over 6,000 lbs. of nerve gas
- Over 8,000 tons of mustard gas
- Possibly more

### What's the problem?

- ✓ Old dumped chemical munitions can be dredged by mistake with a fishing catch
- ✓ Fishing crews come in contact while dislodging them from their nets or machinery
- ✓ Vapors from these chemical munitions are toxic
- ✓ Oily substance leaking from bombs is toxic
- ✓ Some bombs have even exploded



### Who is at risk?

- ✓ Commercial fishermen especially ocean clammers and scallopers
- ✓ Seafood processors
- ✓ Emergency responders
- ✓ Health care personnel
- ✓ And their household members



### What are the symptoms?

Symptoms can happen right away or hours later:

- ✓ Sudden weakness
- ✓ Trouble breathing
- ✓ Burning eyes
- ✓ Burning skin
- ✓ Skin blisters
- ✓ Late health effects: lung disease, lower sperm count, lung and skin cancer



### What can you do?

- ✓ Get away from the bomb!
- ✓ Quickly remove dirty clothing
- ✓ Wash all skin with soap and water
- ✓ Put contaminated clothes into double-sealed plastic bags
- ✓ Get medical help or call 911



### Who can help?

- ✓ **US Coast Guard:** Channel 16 (156.800 MHz)  
1-800-424-8802 and/or 1-215-271-4960
- ✓ **NJ DEP** (Department of Environmental Protection):  
1-877-WARN DEP (1-877-927-6337)
- ✓ **US FDA** (Food and Drug Administration): 1-888-INFO-FDA (1-888-463-6332) Option # 1

