

How am I notified?

You will be notified of a serious hazardous material emergency by one or more of the following methods:

- Television or radio
- NOAA weather radio*
- Outdoor warning sirens
- Door-to-door notification
- Public address systems on vehicles.

*If you are a Hamilton County resident, you can be notified by your weather radio. If your weather radio is programmable, set it to receive civil emergency messages. Make sure your weather radio is on at all times.



**Extra safety precautions:
Seal windows, vents, doors, outlets, etc.
with plastic sheeting and/or tape.**

Additional Information

For more information on Shelter In Place or hazardous material emergencies, please contact:

Agencies

Hamilton County Emergency Management Agency/Local Emergency Planning Committee
(513) 851-7080

American Red Cross, Cincinnati Area Chapter
(513) 579-3010, www.cincinnatiarearedcross.org

Cincinnati Fire Department, Fire Prevention
(513) 357-7585

Greater Cincinnati Hazardous Materials Unit
(513) 851-7560

Alliance for Chemical Safety
(513) 612-3074, www.acs-online.org

Websites

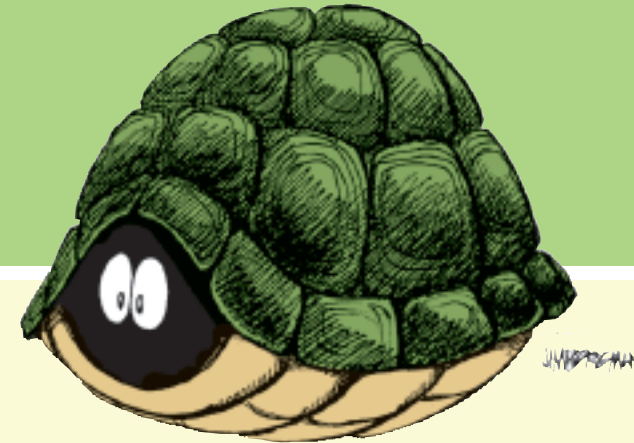
Federal Emergency Management Agency
www.fema.gov/areyouready

American Red Cross
www.redcross.org/services/disaster/beprepared/shelterinplace.html

U.S. Department of Homeland Security
www.ready.gov



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SHELTER IN PLACE

DURING A HAZARDOUS MATERIAL EMERGENCY

What is it?

What do I do?

What do I need?

How am I notified?

What is it?

If a toxic gas or airborne biological agent was released into your neighborhood, would you know what to do? Now, more than ever, citizens need to be prepared for the possibility of both accidental and intentional hazardous material emergencies.

Shelter In Place is a safety procedure designed to help protect you and your family during a serious airborne hazardous material emergency. It means taking shelter inside your home, work place, school or other building until the danger has passed.

The goal of Shelter In Place is to prevent contaminated outside air from entering your home or other shelter for the duration of the incident. Incidents usually last a few hours, not days or weeks.



**One of the most important steps:
Turn off your heating/cooling system.**

What do I do?

If you are told to Shelter In Place by local authorities, please take the following safety actions:

- Close and lock all windows and exterior doors.
- Turn off all air conditioners, fans and heating systems, etc. that draw in outside air.
- Close the fireplace damper.
- Get your Disaster Supply Kit and make sure your radio is working.
- Go to a room with the fewest windows and doors on the highest story of your home or other shelter. Do NOT go to the basement. Many chemicals are heavier than air and can seep into a basement.
- Bring your pet(s) with you, along with food and water for them.
- Do not overload the phone system. Use your phone (or mobile phone) for emergency purposes only.
- Use duct tape and plastic sheeting to seal windows, doors, vents, outlets, etc.
- Stay inside this room and listen to your radio or television until local authorities tell you the emergency is over OR you are told to evacuate.
- When local authorities announce the end of the emergency, ventilate your home by opening doors and windows. Go outside until your home is aired out.

What do I need?

You are encouraged to prepare a Disaster Supply Kit with emergency supplies that will last at least three days. The kit should be stored in a box or duffel bag in the room in which you plan to Shelter In Place.

At a minimum, the kit should contain the following items:

- **Battery-operated radio and extra batteries**
- **NOAA weather radio**
- **Water (1 gallon/person/day) and ready-to-eat food**
- **First aid kit**
- **Flashlight and extra batteries**
- **Plastic sheeting (consider measuring and cutting the plastic in advance)**
- **Duct tape (i.e., high-quality duct tape or polypropylene tape)**
- **Scissors**
- **Towels**
- **Kitchen items (i.e., non-electric can opener, eating utensils)**
- **Hygiene items (i.e., plastic bucket with tight lid, garbage bags)**
- **Specialty items (i.e., medication, diapers, books, games).**