

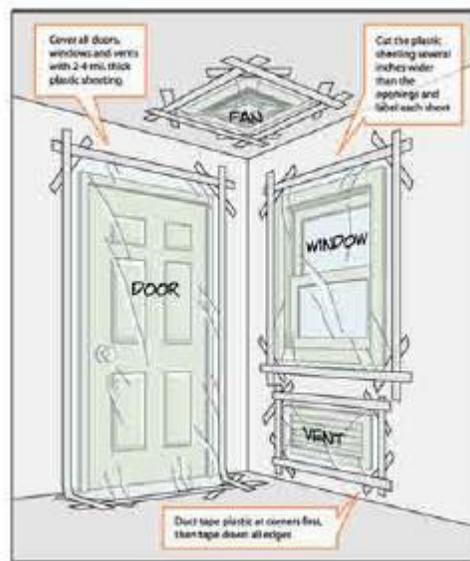
Shelter-In-Place

Did you know that thousands of chemicals are transported and used throughout our community every day? Did you know that most chemicals are heavier than air?

Local authorities may instruct you to shelter-in-place if chemical or radiological contaminants are released into the environment. This means to take immediate shelter where you are—at home, work, school or in between. The appropriate steps depend on the emergency situation. If you hear a warning signal, listen to local radio or television stations for further information. You will be told what to do, including where to find the nearest shelter if you are away from your shelter-in-place location.

How to Shelter-In-Place

1. Bring children and pets indoors immediately. If your children are at school, do not try to bring them home unless told to. The school will shelter them.
2. Close and lock all outside doors and windows. Locking may provide a tighter seal.
3. Turn off the heating, ventilation or air conditioning system. Turn off all fans, including bathroom fans operated by the light switch.
4. Close the fireplace or woodstove damper.
5. Get your disaster supplies kit and make sure the radio is working.
6. Take everyone, including pets, into an interior room with no or few windows and shut the door.
7. If you are instructed to seal the room, use duct tape and plastic sheeting, such as heavy-duty plastic garbage bags, to seal all cracks around the door into the room. Tape plastic over any windows. Tape over any vents and seal electrical outlets and other openings. As much as possible, reduce the flow of air into the room.
8. Call your emergency contact and keep the phone handy in case you need to report a life-threatening condition. Otherwise stay off the phone, so that the lines will be available for use by emergency responders.
9. Keep listening to your radio or television until you are told all is safe or you are told to evacuate. Do not evacuate unless instructed to do so.
10. When you are told that the emergency is over, open windows and doors, turn on ventilation systems and go outside until the building's air has been exchanged with the now clean outdoor air. Follow any special instructions given by emergency authorities to avoid chemical or radiological contaminants outdoors.



ready.gov