

Sheltering In-Place:

Emergency Procedures for Public Protection During a Chemical Spill



North Central Florida
Local Emergency Planning Committee



What is Sheltering In Place?

- Often the Safest Choice for Public Protection is Going Inside and Staying Out of the Plume.
- Go Inside a building, seal it up to keep the chemical plume outside from leaking inside.
- Let the chemical plume blow over while you are inside. It is important to be ready to follow the instructions of local authorities and be know who and be prepared if to shelter-in-place.

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Shelter-In-Place What Could Happen?

- Transportation Incident:
Highway, Rail, or Pipeline
- Water or Wastewater
Treatment Plant Release of
Chlorine
- Manufacturing or Facility
Incident
- Refrigerated Warehouse
Release of Ammonia
- Terrorist Attack



Air Liquide Advanced Materials (High Springs) CAP Meeting, March 13, 2017

Shelter In Place 9 Steps To Remember



1. Move people and pets indoors.
2. Close and lock all windows and exterior doors.
3. Turn off Ventilation System including all fans,
heating and air conditioning systems.
4. Go to an interior room preferably without
windows.

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Shelter In Place 9 Steps To Remember



5. Seal the room using duct tape and plastic sheeting.
6. If you smell a chemical odor, use a wet towel to cover your nose and mouth.
7. Stay off the telephones. Do not call 9-1-1 unless it is an emergency.

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Shelter In Place 9 Steps To Remember



8. Monitor the news media for emergency instructions. Depending on you community, this could include television, radio, or social media outlets.
9. Continue sheltering in-place until you are told all is safe or you are told to evacuate. When you are notified the threat is over, open doors and windows to ventilate your home or office.

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What will I Need ? “Be Prepared”

- Plastic Sheeting
- Duct Tape
- Scissors
- Bath Towels
- Water
- Fresh Batteries
- Non-Perishable Food
- Flashlight
- Battery-powered radio



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Sheltering In-Place How Will I know ?

- The order to Shelter in place would likely come from one of the following:
 - Fire Fighters
 - County Emergency Management
 - Law Enforcement
 - Local Public Officials
- Emergency notifications may be made via any of the following methods:
 - Television - Radio
 - Telephone - Door to Door
 - Twitter - Facebook
- Notification methods vary for each community. You need to check with your County Emergency Management Agency to learn what is available in your community.

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Shelter In Place

Step 1: Move Everyone Indoors

- Quickly move everyone indoors, and do not use elevators. Bring your pets inside with you.
- Retrieve your Shelter In-Place kit if you have one.

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Step 2: Close and lock all windows and exterior doors.

- Locking the exterior doors and windows creates a more air tight seal.
- During your pre-planning, identify any leaky or drafty door or windows that you

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Shelter In Place Step 3: Turn off Ventilation System

- Turn off all heating, air conditioning and ventilation systems; turn the inlets to the “closed” position
- Close a fireplace damper. Extinguish a fire if is burning in a fire place or heater.

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Shelter In Place Step 4: Go to an interior room

- Pre-select an interior room with no or few windows. If possible, select a room that has access to water and restroom facilities.
- An above-ground location is preferable because some chemicals are heavier than air, and may seep into basement windows.

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Step 5: Go to an interior room

- Seal the room using duct tape and plastic sheeting. Cover all doors, vents and windows.
- The plastic should be heavier than food wrap.
- These supplies should be contained in your Shelter In-Place kit.

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Step 6: If You Smell a Chemical Odor

- Use a wet towel to cover your nose and mouth if you smell a chemical odor.
- If your door is not sealed with plastic and duct tape, place wet, clean towels under the door to block harmful vapors.

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Shelter In Place Step 7: Stay off the telephones

- Do not use the telephones unless it is a life threatening situation. This includes cell phones.
- Do not call 9-1-1 unless it is an emergency.
- Do not expose yourself to unnecessary danger by taking pictures.

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Shelter In Place Step 8: Monitor the news media for emergency instructions.

- Depending on you community, you could receive emergency information from television, radio, or social media outlets.
- Keep monitoring for updates and changes in emergency instructions. Local officials may call for evacuation in specific areas.
- Pre-plan options on how you can monitor emergency information on television, radio, and social media.

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Step 9: When the Incident is Over

- When you are notified threat is over, open doors and windows to ventilate your home or office.
- Go outside while your home or office ventilates.
- Review your response and make any needed changes. Replace any used supplies in your shelter in-place kit.

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Shelter In Place “No No's”

Important Safety Actions

- Do not call the School or try to pick up your children
- Do not risk your safety for your pets
- Do not leave your shelter until the “all clear” signal is sounded

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Shelter In Place Pre-Planning Check List

- Identify an interior room to be used to shelter in-place.
- Identify how to close and lock all windows and exterior doors, and how to shut off all heating and air conditioning units.
- Prepare a shelter in-place kit that contains duct tape, plastic sheeting, tape measure, and scissors. The kit should also have other family or office emergency supplies.

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Shelter In Place Pre-Planning Check List

- Identify how you will receive emergency information from local safety officials in the event of a chemical spill.
- Develop a family or business emergency plan for all hazards.
- Visit <http://ncflepc.org/sip> for additional information.

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Shelter In Place For More Information

- Contact your county emergency management agency or local fire department.
- This PowerPoint presentation is designed to accompany a brochure distributed by your Fire Department, Emergency Management and/or the Local Emergency Planning Committee.
- Contact Dwayne Mundy, email LEPC Staff at mundy@ncfrpc.org with additional questions.

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