

SHELTER - IN - PLACE



citizen★**corps**
of St. Clair County

HOW TO SHELTER - IN - PLACE

You may be told to shelter-in-place if hazardous materials have been released into the atmosphere. Shelter-in-place means seeking refuge in a small interior room with few or no windows. This room should be above ground level if possible because most chemicals are heavier than air and may seep into basements. To shelter-in-place:

AT HOME

- Bring all family members and pets indoors.
- Close off all outside air intakes such as windows, furnaces, fans, and air conditioners.
- Get your disaster supply kit and go to your safe room with your family and pets.
- Call your out-of-state disaster contact if possible.
- Use duct tape and plastic to seal around the door, window, and fan.
- Listen to your radio for further information.

AT WORK

- Close the business.
- Inform all employees and visitors to remain in the building and call their emergency contact.
- Close and lock all windows, doors, and other opening to outside air.
- Make sure all fans, heating and air conditioning systems are turned off.
- Gather disaster supplies (food, water, radios, flashlights, etc.)
- Have everyone move to an interior room (rooms) above ground level with the fewest number of windows and vents. If possible, choose a room with a telephone.
- Seal cracks around doors, windows, and air ducts with duct tape and plastic.
- Record the names of everyone in the room and report to an emergency contact.
- Listen to radio stations or TV until you are told that conditions are safe or are told to evacuate.

AT SCHOOL

- All children will be brought indoors and accounted for.
- Schools will be closed and will go into lockdown during shelter-in-place.
- Nobody will be allowed in the school to pick up children during lockdown.
- Find out what the disaster plan is for your school or for your children's schools. All schools should have a disaster plan which includes shelter-in-place procedures.
- Remember that schools are one of the safest places to be during a disaster situation.

