



HUMBOLDT EMERGENCY MEASURES ORGANIZATION

BE ALERT BE INFORMED

Do you have a Family Emergency Plan?

Have a family meeting to discuss the potential emergency situations

If you are advised by a local official to **Shelter-in-Place**, you must remain inside your home or office and protect yourself there.

The following steps will help maximize your protection.

Shelter – in – Place

- * Close all doors and windows and seal with tape
- * Eliminate all ignition sources (fans, heating, air conditioning systems)
- * Close your fireplace damper
- * Get your emergency supply kit and be sure your radio works.
- * Go to an interior room that's above ground level (if possible one without windows)
- * Stay indoors until given further notice
- * Stay tuned to CK 750 or 650 CKOM (AM) for further information
(Have a battery powered radio in case of power failure)

CK 750 and 650 CKOM (AM radio) will broadcast emergency instructions and will monitor them regularly, particularly during uncertain weather conditions. Emergency Measures response personnel will advise when it is safe to leave the premises.

Shelter - in - Place Ready Box Contents

1. Shelter in Place Instructions
2. Battery Operated Radio and batteries
3. Vinyl for windows and doors
4. Duct tape
5. Scissors (to cut vinyl to cover windows and doors)
6. Towel
7. Flashlight and batteries
8. 2 litres of water (recommended amount for each family member)
9. Plastic bags for waste / garbage

Shelter - in - Place Questions and Answer

Stay indoors
Appropriate for Severe Weather
(Not appropriate for flood or fire of residence)

Do's

- √ Go inside. Close all windows and doors
- √ Turn on local radio and listen for instructions
- √ Keep the phone lines free
- √ Continue to listen for updates
- √ Turn off furnace/air conditioners/exhaust fans and appliances to avoid drawing air into your shelter
- √ Seal a room using wet towels at the base of the door. Breathe through a damp towel to filter air
- √ Seal doors and windows with duct tape

Don't (Unless told to do so by authorities)

- Evacuate or travel
- Bring home children from school or other family members from work
- Don't call 911 or any other authority for information. (Listen to the radio for updates on the emergency)

Evacuation

Go to a Safety Location

(Appropriate when told to do so by authorities)

- √ Gather a change of clothing, medication/dietary needs (items you would normally have in your Ready Box)
- √ Follow directions from authorities
- √ Keep car vents/windows closed and do not use the vehicle air conditioner or heater

Is Shelter - in - Place something new?

No, emergency management officials have used sheltering in place for many years. It was actually developed by fire departments as a way for the public to protect themselves.

When should I Shelter - in - Place?

- If you experience severe weather
- If you hear the Shelter - in - Place instruction on the radio
- If you smell a strong or unusual odor and don't know where it is

Go inside and begin Shelter – in – Place procedures while you listen to the radio for information

What about Children in School?

While it is only natural to want to go get your children from school in an event of an emergency, attempting to do so during an emergency could just make matters worse. You and your children could experience exposure to a much greater risk while travelling to or from school.

Schools have procedures designed to ensure that your children would be safe at school during an emergency. As a parent you should talk with school leaders to gain an understanding of their procedures including Shelter –in-Place.

Is Shelter – In – Place suited for a chemical release?

By staying indoors a person can take advantage of the clean air stored within their home. Shelter-in-Place can protect you until the chemical can be dispersed by the winds. Remember to go inside and begin Shelter – In – Place procedures while you listen to the radio for information.

Why not just evacuate?

In some cases (i.e., flood or fire in your home), evacuation is the better thing to do. However, during a chemical release, evacuation could increase your chances of being exposed to the airborne hazard. The decision to evacuate or Shelter - in - Place will be made by local emergency authorities.

Does Shelter – In - Place really work?

Yes it does. Shelter - in - Place has been shown to be a safe response to a hazardous material release of three hours or less. In fact, during the 1992 Gulf War, Israeli citizens used Shelter-In –Place techniques to protect themselves against the threat of chemical weapons. Closer to home, in 2001 when Minot, North Dakota experienced a train derailment and the largest release of anhydrous ammonia known in history, Shelter – in –Place saved the population. The only fatality was a result of a person making their decision to leave their home while the chemical was still in the air.

Houses built for winter conditions are especially suited for Shelter-In-Place. For the most part, they are tightly constructed and provide good protective barrier against the elements including airborne chemical. Shelter-in-Place techniques are also effective because they are easily and quickly accomplished. In a matter of moments, you can be safe inside your pre-selected room should an emergency occur in your area.