



**South Florida
Local Emergency Planning Committee**

**Shelter-In-Place:
What You Need to Know**



Everyone Needs to Know...

- We live in an industrialized world
- We manufacture, transport and use products made from chemicals
- Accidental or intentional spills or releases of hazardous chemicals can occur
- During a release of hazardous materials, air quality may be threatened
- Sheltering in place is most often your safest option



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What could happen?

- Manufacturing Accident
- Train Derailment
- Interstate/Highway Accident
- Chemical leak from pool or wastewater treatment plant
- Terrorist Attack



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Propane Storage Facility



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HazMat Rail Car



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HazMat Facility



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Protecting the Public

- **The decision to protect the public from a hazardous material incident is complex.**
- **Options include evacuating the public or sheltering the public in place.**
- **Measure is determined by the Incident Commander based upon the nature of the threat to the public.**



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Sheltering-In-Place has many names...

"Protect-in-place"

"Cocooning"

"Buttoning up"

"Using safe havens"

"Sheltering"



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Sheltering-In-Place: How Will I Know?

- The order to shelter-in-place will likely come from one of the following:
 - Firefighters and Law Enforcement
 - County Emergency Mgmt and Local Public Officials
- Emergency notifications may be made via any of the following methods:
 - Television and Radio
 - Telephone
 - Twitter and Facebook
 - Door to Door



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What will I Need to "Be Prepared"?

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



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Shelter-In-Place "No Nos" 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.**
- **Identify how you will receive emergency information from local safety officials in the event of a chemical spill.**



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Shelter In Place Pre-Planning Check List

- **Develop a family or business emergency plan for all hazards.**
- **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

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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Shelter In Place

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 doors or windows that you may need to seal further during an emergency.**



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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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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 grade.
- 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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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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Step 8: Monitor the news media for emergency instructions

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



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Step 9: When the Incident is Over

- When you are notified the 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.

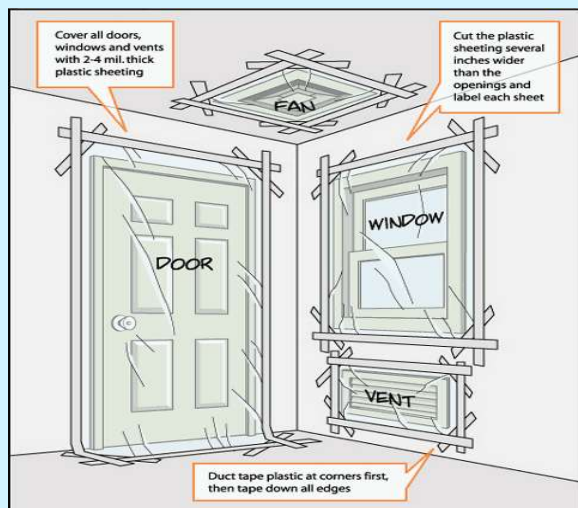


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Simple One-Page How-To Shelter-In-Place



- Bring your family and pets inside
- Lock doors, close windows and any open air vents
- Turn off fans & air conditioners
- Bring water, snacks and any special needs medications
- Bring a battery-powered radio and flashlight in case the power is off
- Go into an interior room with few windows and doors, preferably with access to bathroom facilities
- Seal all windows, doors and air vents with plastic sheeting and duct tape
- Listen to the radio, watch TV or check the Internet for further instructions



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Shelter-In-Place Demonstration

Using HO-Scale Model and Dry Ice to Simulate a Chemical Plume



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Shelter-In-Place Demonstration

Using HO-Scale Model and Dry Ice to Simulate a Chemical Plume



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Shelter-In-Place Demonstration

Using HO-Scale Model and Dry Ice to Simulate a Chemical Plume



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Shelter-In-Place

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