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Most of us know to go to the basement when there's a tornado, and to get out quickly in case of fire, but would you know what to do if a dangerous chemical is released or spilled in your neighbourhood?

If disaster strikes

- Remain calm
- Don't decide to leave your home if you are not told to do so
- Listen to radio, TV for information and instructions
- If told to leave, do so right away
- Follow designated routes
- When you get to a safe area, such as a Reception Centre, listen to Reception Centre staff, radio or TV for updated emergency information

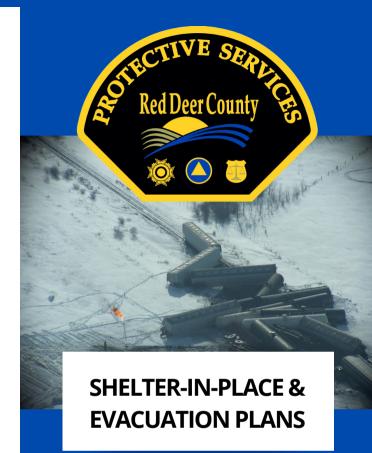
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Hazardous chemicals are all around us. They are used in factories and on farms, and are transported on our highways and rail lines. They can be solids, liquids or gases. While some can be seen and smelled, others may be invisible or odour free

Deciding whether to say or leave home during a disaster may be a hard decision. Trust your local Emergency Management officials to make the right decision.

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Shelter-in-Place

If you are advised that there has been a hazardous materials release, most often there is not enough time for evacuation. The safest immediate action is to **Shelter-in-Place**.

There may also be times when there has been no notice but you still need to take action:

- Hear a strange sound like an explosion
- See a vapour cloud
- Smell a strange odour
- Feel nauseous or have burning eyes

How do I Shelter-in-Place?

- Move inside a building. If exposed, shower and change clothes.
- Close and lock all windows and outside doors.
- Turn off all ventilation systems (includes heating and AC).
- If you have a fireplace, close it.
- Choose an area that you can seal off easily, preferably one with access to telephone, water and a toilet. An upstairs bedroom with an adjoining bathroom would be ideal. An upper level room is best because some gases and chemicals are heavier than air, and they sink to lower levels.
- Use plastic sheeting and duct tape to cover and seal windows, cracks, vents and doors.
- Keep listening to your radio until emergency management officials tell you that it is safe to leave or evacuate.

Shelter-in-Place Room Sealing Kit

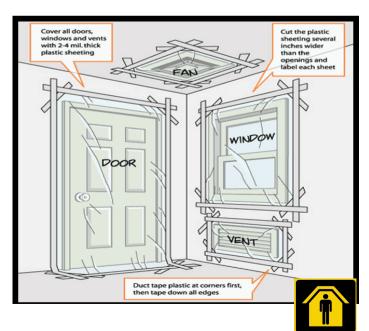
Gather these items together in a box to have ready for an emergency that requires sheltering in place.

- Plastic for windows
- Duct tape
- Towel for under door
- Scissors

Emergency Go Kit

Ensure that you bring your Emergency Go Kit to the room you are sealing so that you have the supplies necessary to take care of yourself and your family.

For more information on Emergency Go Kits visit <u>getprepared.gc.ca</u>



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Evacuation Plan

- Pick at least two safe places for your family to meet
- Keep updated contact information of your safe places (address, phone number, directions)
- Choose one safe place in your neighbourhood and another out of town
- If you have chosen a hotel/motel as a safe place, call before going to make sure rooms are available
- Be aware of evacuation plans for work, school and child care centers for all members of your household
- If you have a car, your gas tank should be at least half full at all times because fuel may not be available during a disaster
- If you do not have a car, make transportation plan to evacuate - ask a neighbour or friend
- Leave a note telling people when you left and where you are going
- Turn off utilities if emergency management officials instruct you to do so and lock your home

If you have pets - don't leave them behind!

 Prepare to take your pets with you either to the home of a relative or friend, or to a previously identified pet-friendly hotel