



Chemical Emergency

Providence City

164 North Gateway Drive • Providence, Utah 84332 • (435) 752-9441 • Fax (435) 753-1586
Fire, Police, and Medical Emergencies: 9-1-1 • Poison Control Center: 1-800-456-7707

How to Do **In-Place Sheltering** during a Chemical Emergency (From Cache County Local Emergency Planning Committee)

In-Place Sheltering simply means staying inside your home, business, or other facility, or seeking shelter in the nearest available building. In-Place Sheltering keeps you inside a more protected area during an accidental release of toxic chemicals, or emergencies involving hazardous materials where air quality may be threatened.

When should you In-Place Shelter?

Local authorities are responsible for issuing orders for In-Place Sheltering during chemical or hazardous material emergencies. You may receive notice from Police, Fire and Emergency Management Officials, directly or through radio or TV broadcasts. **An emergency vehicle going through your area with a Hi-Lo Siren sounding continuously means an emergency situation may exist in your area.** You should immediately tune to your local Emergency Alert System (EAS) for more information. The primary EAS station for Cache Valley is KVNU 610 AM. **Emergency information, including steps to be taken, will be broadcast continuously until the emergency is over.**

- If possible, bring pets inside.
- Close and lock all doors and windows to the outside.
- Turn off all heating and air conditioning systems, and switch inlets or vents to the “closed” position.
- Close all fireplace dampers.
- Seal gaps around window-type air conditioners, fireplace dampers, doors, and windows with tape, plastic sheeting, wax paper, aluminum wrap, or other material.
- Seal all bathroom exhaust fans or grills, range vents, dryer vents, and all other openings, as much as possible
- Close drapes and shades covering windows.
- Stay away from windows and doors.
- Remain inside until you are informed by Police, Fire and Emergency Management Officials directly, or through radio and/or TV broadcasts, that it is safe to leave.

If time does not permit you to seal the entire home, close exterior doors and windows and as many internal doors as possible, then move to a room that can be easily sealed and seal that room.



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In-Place Sheltering in your Workplace

In addition to the directions listed for your home, you should take the following steps:

- Ensure that all ventilation systems are set to 100 percent re-circulation so that no outside air is drawn into the building.
- If 100 percent re-circulation is not possible, ventilating systems should be turned off.
- Minimize the use of elevators as they tend to “pump” air in and out of a building while moving up and down.
- Again, remain inside until you receive notice from Police, Fire and Emergency Management Officials directly or through radio and/or TV broadcasts, that it is safe to leave.

When In-Place Sheltering has been ordered because of an accidental release of toxic chemicals, remember **DO** the following:

1. Stay inside your place of business, home, or in another enclosed building.
2. Stay tuned to the Emergency Alert System (EAS) on your radio or TV for more information.

Do **NOT** call 9-1-1 unless it is a life-threatening emergency.

Do **NOT** go outside unless specifically instructed to evacuate.

Most chemical emergencies last for only a few hours. A 72-Hour Emergency Preparedness Kit, or at least the following items would be valuable for your home as well as your workplace.

- Flashlight
- Battery-Powered Radio
- Drinking Water
- Non-Perishable, Ready-to-Eat Foods for Family and Pets
- Can Opener
- Hygiene Products
- Fire Extinguisher
- First Aid Kit
- Adjustable Wrench
- Change of Clothing
- Sleeping Bags
- Money