

## SHELTER-IN-PLACE PRE-PLANNING

It is important that you have a plan for your home or business for sheltering-in-place. Some key steps in this plan are:

- Know what doors and windows are likely to be open and assign someone to check and close them
- Know where the manual vents are and how to close them
- Know location of forced air heating or cooling controls/power exhaust vents are and how to turn them off
- Know what room you will go to and how to seal it
- Have at least one telephone that is **not** cordless in case power is lost
- Have a battery operated radio with spare batteries
- Be patient—help may not be immediate
- Know your local news & radio stations, and be sure you are registered for RM emergency communications (CONNECT) and check the RM website for updates

### **SHELTER-IN-PLACE CHECKLIST**

- ✓ **Go indoors**
- ✓ **Close windows and doors**
- ✓ **Turn off ventilation systems**
- ✓ **Go to an inside room**
- ✓ **Turn on radio or refer to RM communications for updates**

## **Shelter-in-Place Kit**

Here are some suggested items to gather and have ready for any emergency:

- Plastic for windows
- Duct tape
- Towel for under door
- Bottled water and food that won't spoil
- Sanitation supplies
- Radio, flashlight and extra batteries
- First Aid Kit that includes prescription medication and toiletries

## **STAY INFORMED**

### **Register for CONNECT**

to receive emergency notifications by phone call to your landline or cell phone, texts or emails - it's your choice!

Call the RM Office at 1-866-738-2264 or register on-line at

<https://www.rmofstandrews.com/p/connect-st-andrews>



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# Shelter-in-Place

## Emergency Preparedness Tips



- ◆ *Prepare a Kit*
- ◆ *Make a plan*
- ◆ *Stay Informed*

1. SHELTER

2. SHUT

3. LISTEN



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[www.rmofstandrews.com](http://www.rmofstandrews.com)

There may be a time when an emergency takes place in the community due to a hazardous materials release. In some situations, it is safer to stay indoors, especially if you see or smell a cloud, vapor or smoke from the hazardous material. The outside air quality may be affected to the point that it isn't safe to be outside or to evacuate. In a situation like this, it is usually safer to shelter-in-place until the wind disperses and moves the substance away.

If you are told 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 while listening for further instructions.

There may be times when there has been no notice but you still need to take action. Take immediate action if you:

- ◇ Hear a strange sound like an explosion
- ◇ See a vapor cloud
- ◇ Smell a strange odor
- ◇ Feel nauseous or having burning eyes

The length of time you are required to shelter-in-place may be short, such as during a tornado warning, or long, such as during a winter storm. It is important that you stay in shelter until local authorities say it is safe to leave.



## **WHAT TO DO:**

- ☑ Bring family and pets inside
- ☑ Close all outside doors, windows and air vents
- ☑ Do not use fireplaces; close all dampers
- ☑ Do not use bathroom or kitchen vents
- ☑ Set thermostats so air conditioners, furnaces and hot water heaters will not turn on
- ☑ Do not operate clothes dryer
- ☑ Go into an interior room with few windows, if possible
- ☑ Use damp towels under doors
- ☑ Be prepared to improvise and use what you have on hand to seal gaps so that you create a barrier between yourself and any contamination
- ☑ Stay informed; local authorities will let you know when shelter-in-place has ended



## **Shelter-in-Place**

This is an emergency shelter option when safe evacuation is not an option. During shelter-in-place, it is recommended to stay in a safe location and reduce air ventilation, whether it be in a structure or vehicle.



Other emergency situations that may require you to shelter-in-place include:

- A tornado
- A severe weather event such as a winter storm or blizzard
- An event that could harm the public such as an active shooter or terrorist attack
- High water/flooding event

Road access may be lost and conditions may be unsafe for travel so citizens may be requested to stay home or 'shelter-in-place'. For the safety of yourself and others, a shelter-in-place order may be implemented or requested by local authorities.