



U.S. ARMY CHEMICAL MATERIALS AGENCY

On-Post Residents

Chemical Stockpile Emergency Preparedness Program

If a chemical emergency happens on the XYZ (*insert name of Army post*), you will hear about it from outdoor sirens or tone alert radios (TAR) inside your home. You may be instructed to either evacuate, shelter in place or wait for further instructions.

Evacuate means to leave where you are and go to a safe place. Evacuations are carefully planned to get people out of an area safely and quickly. Army officials already have evacuation plans. They will tell you what areas to evacuate, which roads to take, which way to go, and when it is safe to return. To stay safe, leave **immediately**, if advised to do so. Learn about XYZ's (*insert name of Army post*) evacuation plans now.

Things to remember if you are told to evacuate:

- Close and lock all windows and outside doors. Turn off all ventilation systems. You may be asked to turn off your porch light to indicate that you have evacuated.
- Take essentials for your health and safety such as medications and eyeglasses. Do not take time to gather other items.
- Keep car windows and air vents closed as you leave the area. Turn off the car's air conditioner or heater. Listen to an Emergency Alert System (EAS) station: (*list EAS stations with location on the dial*). It's a good idea to program an (AM or FM) EAS station on your car radio.
- *Sites may want to put site-specific information on evacuation routes here.*
- If you need transportation, try to get a ride with a neighbor. If you can give a ride to someone ready to leave, do so. Make arrangements for unattended children now.

- Check with your local emergency management agency now to see if you should take pets with you. If not, bring them indoors if you can find them quickly and leave them with food and water.
- If you cannot evacuate, take shelter inside a building **immediately**. Call (XXX) XXX-XXXX to let security know that you cannot evacuate.

Shelter in place means to go inside your home or the nearest accessible building. Shelter in place provides effective, short-term protection. It requires you to stay inside a sealed room for no more than a few hours until the outside air is safe to breathe.

Things to remember if you are told to shelter in place:

- Close and lock all windows and doors. Turn off all ventilation systems. Shut air vents (heating, cooling, circulation, and fireplace or woodstove dampers).
- Take a TAR into the room to monitor an EAS station for further instructions. If the room has no phone, take a cordless or cellular phone with you if you have one.
- Some sites may ask you to turn on your porch light to let the Army post's security officials know that someone is still inside the building.
- Quickly shut yourself in a room and seal any openings to outside air. Select a room with few outside windows or other openings. Block all openings to the room where outside air can leak in. If possible, use pre-cut plastic sheeting and duct tape to seal cracks and openings.
- It is important to take shelter **immediately** and to end sheltering in place **immediately** when told to do so. Harmful vapors can work their way

For more information, contact the CMA Public Affairs Office at (410) 436-3629 (800) 488-0648



On-Post Residents (continued)

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into a closed building and even a sealed room. Depending on the situation, you may be told to ventilate the shelter and building, go outside or leave the area.

Talk with your family and business associates **now** about your plans for evacuation and shelter in place. Assign each person a job so that you can leave or take shelter quickly. Establish a place to meet your family (outside of the affected area) if you are not together when told to evacuate.

Schools will protect your children by evacuating or sheltering them. Do not go to your child's school unless told to do so by

emergency or school officials. Listen to an EAS station to hear where and when to pick up your children.

National Guard personnel stationed on XYZ (*insert name of Army post*) will remain at or near the Army post. They have protective clothing to keep them safe.

For more information, see Evacuation, Evacuation Kit, Shelter-in-Place and Shelter-in-Place Kit fact sheets.