

SHELTER IN PLACE: WHEN, WHERE, WHY?



BE AWARE

SHELTERING IN PLACE

What does “shelter-in-place” mean? You stay indoors wherever you are (e.g. home, work, school, etc.) to create a barrier between yourself and the potential threat or hazard. If local officials tell you to stay put or “shelter-in-place”, you should:

- Go inside the nearest structure and take shelter.
- Tune into radio and/or television for emergency updates and information.
- Go into an interior room and seal cracks around doors/vents in room.



WHAT IF I'M –

AT HOME / WORK:

- Close and lock all windows and exterior doors.
- Turn off fans and HVAC systems.
- Have a phone with you in the room in order to call for help in the event of an emergency.
- Check in with an emergency contact to notify that you are safe.
- Use duct tape and plastic sheeting to seal all cracks leading into the room you're in.

IN MY VEHICLE:

- If you are close to home, office, or a public building, go there immediately.
- Otherwise, pull to the side of the road in the safest place possible.
- Turn off the engine and close the windows and vents.
- Listen to the radio and/or television for updates from officials.
- Stay where you are until you are told it is safe to return to the roads.

SHELTER IN PLACE



BUILD A KIT

An emergency kit is a container of items you may need during or after an emergency. Your emergency kit should be in an easily accessible place. Be sure to consider seniors, children, and pets when preparing your supply kit. For more information, visit ready.dc.gov/kit

GENERAL SUPPLIES

- First aid kit
- Food, at least a three day supply of non-perishable food (include manual can opener)
- One gallon of water, per person, per day
- Flashlight and extra batteries
- Battery-powered or crank radio
- Emergency contact phone numbers
- Charged cell phone for emergency calls
- Cell phone charger, solar or battery powered
- Cash
- Items for entertainment (books, games, etc.)
- Copies of important documents (insurance policies, prescriptions, phone lists)



STAY INFORMED

AlertDC sends you emergency alert and warning notifications from the District via email or text. Sign up now at alertdc.dc.gov



MAKE A PLAN

Having a plan is the most important way you can help yourself in the case of a disaster or emergency. ReadyDC shares tips on plans for family, seniors, people with disabilities and/or functional needs, pets, and home.



For more information about ReadyDC, contact DC Homeland Security and Emergency Management:

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