



GET READY!

NATIONAL SECURITY

Threats to national security come in many forms and can include explosions, biological threats, chemical threats, nuclear blasts, and radiological dispersion devices (RDDs). In the event of an attack, public health officials may not immediately be able to provide information on what you should do. Determining the exact illness, treatment, and danger will take time.

Before

- Create an emergency communications plan.
- Establish a meeting place away from your home.
- Assemble an emergency supplies kit.
- Check on the school emergency plan of any school-age children in your family.
- Learn basic first aid techniques.

During

- Remain calm and be patient. Follow the advice of local emergency officials.
- If local officials ask you to evacuate, do so immediately. Wear long-sleeved shirts, long pants, and sturdy shoes. Take your emergency supplies kit, take your pets, lock your home, avoid blocked roads, and stay away from downed power lines.
- If local officials ask you to “shelter in place,” remain inside your home or office; close and lock all windows and doors; turn off all fans and ventilation systems; close the fireplace damper; get your emergency supplies kit; and turn on the radio. Go to an interior room without windows that’s above ground level. Be prepared to use duct tape and plastic sheeting to seal all cracks around the door and any vents. Ideally, choose a room with a hard-wired telephone.
- If you are in your car when local officials ask you to shelter in place and you are unable to get to a building quickly, pull over to the side of the road. If it is sunny outside, pick a shady spot. Turn off the engine and close the windows and vents. If possible, seal the vents with duct tape. Listen to the radio for updates and stay where you are until local officials say it is safe to get back on the road.
- Listen to local radio or television for updates.
- Practice good hygiene to avoid spreading germs.



After

- If the disaster happens near you, check for injuries. Give first aid and get help for seriously injured people.
- If the disaster occurs near your home when you are there, check for damage using a flashlight. Do not light matches or candles or turn on electrical switches. Check for fires, fire hazards, and other household hazards.
- If you smell gas or hear a hissing sound, open the windows, get everyone outside, and turn off the main gas valve.
- Shut off any damaged utilities.
- Confine or secure your pets.
- Check on your neighbors who may need assistance.
- Call your emergency contact and then do not use the phone again unless in an emergency.