

# Shelter In Place

If an **Outdoor Chemical Release** occurs, there may not be time to evacuate.



Bismarck  
Emergency  
Management



- ✓ Close and Lock Windows and Doors
- ✓ Turn Off Ventilation Systems
- ✓ Monitor the Media for incident update
- ✓ Shelter at or above Ground Level

When disaster strikes involving a hazardous materials release, poisonous vapors may contaminate the outside air and pose an immediate danger to life and health. There may not be time to evacuate the area safely, and you may need to shelter in place instead. Bring your family and pets inside as quickly as possible. Continue to shelter in place until the chemical has dispersed and the outside air is determined to be safe.

## Before an Incident

Know how to operate your ventilation systems and how to shut them off. This includes furnaces, air conditioners, air exchangers and fans.

Identify an interior above-ground room with as few windows as possible. This will make it easier to seal the room.

Build an emergency supply kit and include duct tape, scissors and plastic sheeting to cover doors, windows and vents.

Sign up to receive local emergency messaging. Use the QR code or URL below.

## During an Incident

Stay inside and turn off all ventilation systems to minimize air intake and air circulation.

Lock all doors and windows for a better seal. Shelter at or above ground level unless instructed otherwise by local authorities.

Use duct tape and plastic to seal around doors and windows in the room where you take shelter. Seal the bottom of the door with a damp towel.

Monitor local media for emergency updates and instructions from local authorities.



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For additional information, or to sign up to receive location-specific emergency messaging applicable to you, visit [bismarcknd.gov/emergencymanagement](https://bismarcknd.gov/emergencymanagement)

