

# SHELTER-IN-PLACE

---

Sheltering-in-place means staying inside a building. Local authorities may issue a shelter-in-place order during a release of a hazardous material where air quality may be threatened.



For more information:  
Salt Lake City Office of  
Emergency Preparedness  
349 South 200 East, Suite 535  
Salt Lake City, Utah 84111  
Phone: 801-535-6030  
Email: [michael.stever@slcgov.com](mailto:michael.stever@slcgov.com)

[www.slcneighborhoodpreparedness.net](http://www.slcneighborhoodpreparedness.net)

If you are told to shelter-in-place take the following precautions.

- Take your children and pets inside immediately. While gathering your family, cover your mouth and nose with a damp cloth to provide a minimal amount of protection.
- Close all windows and doors in your home as well as the fireplace damper.
- Turn off all fans, heating and air conditioning systems, and any other ventilation.
- Go to an aboveground room (not the basement) with the fewest windows and doors. Be sure to take a radio with you.
- Wet some towels and jam them in the crack under the door. Tape plastic sheeting or garbage bags over the door, window, exhaust fan, vents, and outlets.
- If you are told there is a danger of explosion, close the window shades. Blinds, or curtains. Stay away from the windows.
- Stay in the room and listen to your radio until you are told all is safe or you are told to evacuate. Once you are told to stop shelter-in-place, vent your house opening windows and turning on fans.

In addition the directions listed for your home, you should take the following steps at work:

- Ensure all ventilation systems are set to 100 percent recirculation so that no outside air is drawn into the building. If this is not possible, turn off the system.
  - Minimize the use of elevators as they 'pump' air through the building.
  - Remain in place until you receive notice that is safe to leave.
-