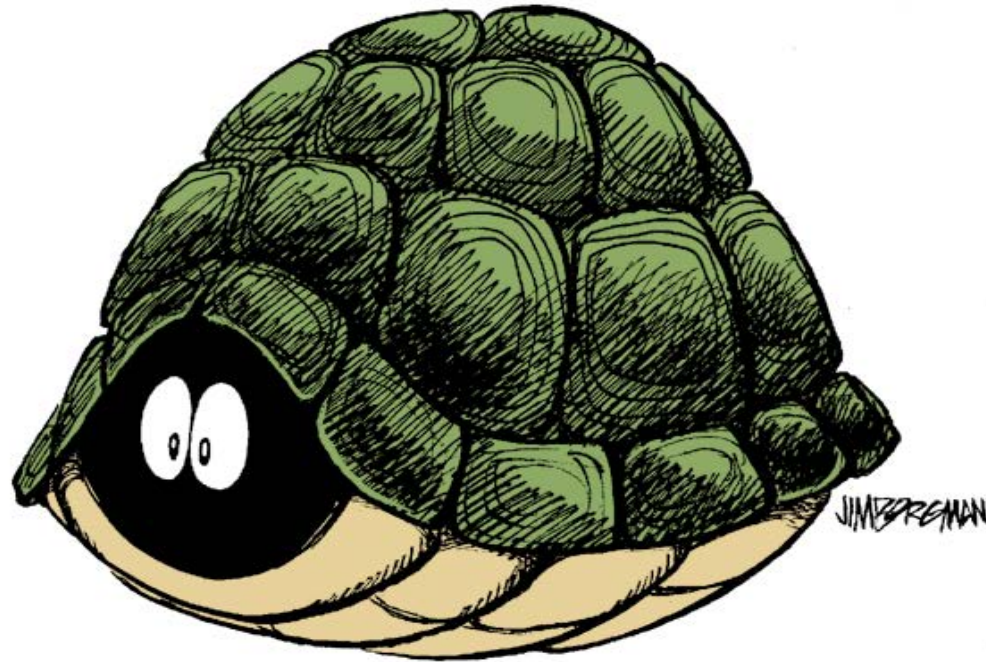


# Shelter In Place and Your Community



**Sponsored by the Alliance for Chemical Safety**



# Introduction

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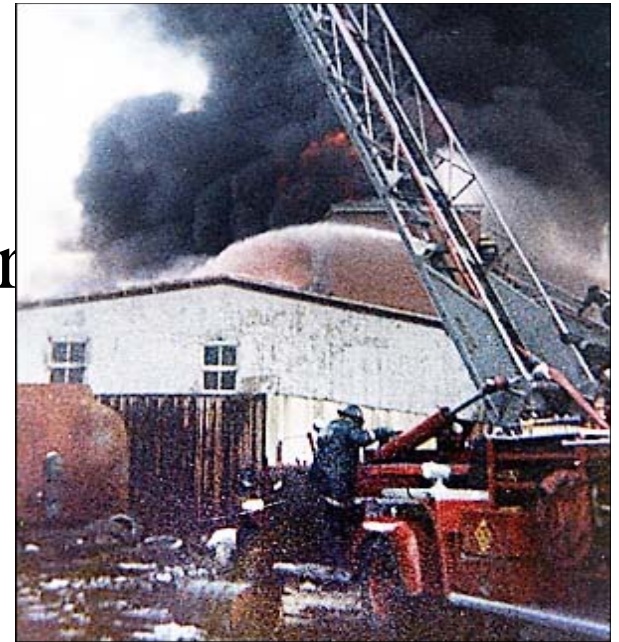
- In Hamilton County, more than 100 hazardous material emergencies occur each year
  - Spills of liquids or releases of airborne chemicals in vapor clouds
  - Can involve industrial facilities, railcars, tanker trucks, barges, planes, semis





# Introduction...

- Most chemical emergencies are small, like a fuel spill on the highway or a laboratory accident
- Some are large and result in harm to people and property but these are RARE
  - BASF in Evanston, 1990





# How are incidents handled?

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- Incident occurs
- Incident commander (highest ranking firefighter) arrives and assesses emergency
- If incident involves an AIRBORNE RELEASE and poses significant risk to life or human health, incident commander can request that the public be notified



# How is public notified?

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- The public can be notified in the following ways:
  - NOAA weather radios
  - Outdoor warning sirens
  - TV/radio via Emergency Alert System
  - Door-to-door notification
  - Loud speaker system from vehicles



# How is public notified?...

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- Regardless of how you are notified, **ALWAYS** turn on your TV or radio for more information!
  - Outdoor sirens = Turn on TV or radio
  - Weather radio = Turn on TV or radio
  - Door-to-Door = Turn on TV or radio
  - Loud speaker = Turn on TV or radio



# NOAA Weather Radios

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- Hamilton County is first county in Ohio to use weather radios for chemical emergencies
- All Hamilton County schools, licensed day care centers and senior centers should have weather radios
- Many citizens have weather radios



# NOAA Weather Radios...

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- Weather radios cost between \$20 and \$70 and are available at most stores that sell electronic equipment
- Programmable radios (the more expensive kind) need to be set to receive CEMs (Civil Emergency Messages)





# Shelter In Place

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- 99% of the time, Shelter In Place is the recommended safety action during a hazardous material emergency
  - Exposure to airborne chemicals can be reduced by 80-90%



# Shelter In Place...

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- The steps for Shelter In Place are as follows:
  - Remain calm
  - Stay inside your home, business or other shelter
  - Turn on TV/radio for more information
  - Close windows, doors, fireplace dampers, etc.
  - Turn off air conditioners, heating systems, fans, etc.



# Shelter In Place...

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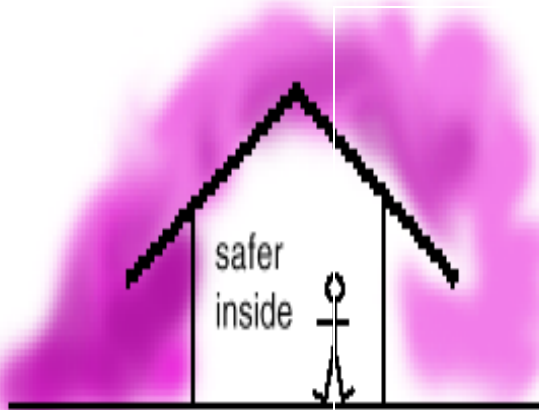
- Use your phone for emergencies only
- Go to a room with the fewest windows and doors in the highest point in your residence
- Extra precautions include using plastic, tape or wet towels to seal leaky windows or doors
- Stay tuned to TV/radio for updates
- When incident is over, open all doors, windows, etc. to air out your home and go outside for awhile



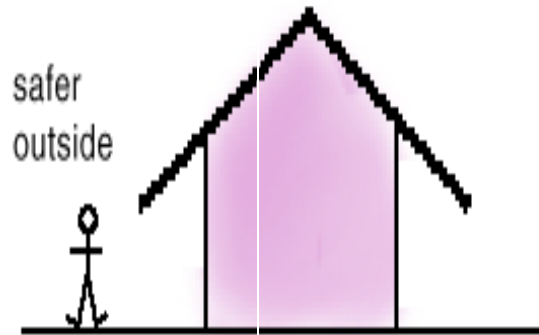
# Shelter In Place...

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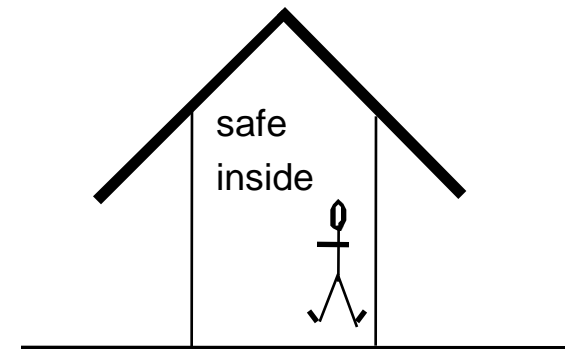
During Incident



Just After Incident



After Incident



# Thank You



**American Red Cross**