

A Moment of Self-Reliant Wisdom

Topic: **Shelter-in-Place**

Learning objective: Family will prepare their home or office for a shelter-in-place event and know when to stay inside and secure against a possible low air quality event.

Shelter-in-place simply means staying inside your home or business. During an accidental release of toxic chemicals, or emergencies involving hazardous materials where air quality may be threatened, shelter-in-place keeps you inside a protected area and out of danger.

If shelter-in-place is necessary local authorities will notify you.

If you are asked to shelter-in-place, take the following steps:

- ❖ Take your children and pets inside immediately. While gathering your family, cover your mouth and nose with a damp cloth to filter minimal effects of the air bourn material.
- ❖ Close all windows and doors in you home or office as well as the furnace fresh air return and/or 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 or outlets.
- ❖ Close drapes, or shades over windows. Stay away from 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 sheltering-in-place, test the air and then vent your house by opening windows and turning on fans.

Your 72-hour kit is made for a shelter-in-place incident

