

SHELTER-IN-PLACE PROCEDURE

If you receive a Shelter-in-Place order from local authorities, follow these steps to avoid exposure to hazardous chemicals or heavy smoke in the air.

Sheltering-in-place means that you should stay indoors until authorities tell you it is safe to go outside, or you are told to evacuate. Whether you are at home, work, or elsewhere, there may be situations when it is simply best to stay where you are and avoid exposure to hazardous chemicals or heavy smoke in the air. Officials agree that in the case of dangerous air quality, people who shelter indoors are much safer than those people who remain outside and are exposed to harmful chemicals or particulate matter.

The following shelter-in-place procedures are recommended as the best first response after an AC Alert emergency notification has been sent out.

Shelter

- o Go inside your home or nearest building.
- o Bring pets in, if possible.
- o Go into an interior room with few windows and doors, if possible.

Shut

- o Close all doors and windows. Use window and door locks to create a better seal.
- o Turn off ventilation systems such as heating, air conditioners, and fans.
- o Make sure your vents and fireplace flue are closed.
- o Use what you have on hand to seal gaps, such as duct tape and plastic sheeting, to create a barrier between yourself and any contamination.

Listen

- o Turn on your radio and television for information and further instruction.
- o Look out for updates from the City or County via the AC Alert System.
- o Avoid using the telephone and calling 9-1-1 unless you have a life-threatening emergency. This keeps lines free for emergency responders.

To learn more about disaster preparedness in the City of Albany, visit:

www.albanyca.org/departments/fire-department/disaster-preparedness.

Sign up for AC Alert today to ensure that you receive timely notifications in the event of an emergency.



If we can't reach you, we can't **ALERT** you

AC Alert is the mass notification system used by City and County agencies throughout Alameda County to send critical alerts via voice, text, email, and social media notifications to persons who live, work, or visit Alameda County.

Register today at www.acalert.org.