

During a Chemical and Hazardous Materials Incident: Be Prepared and Take Action

During a chemical or hazardous materials incident, taking the right actions immediately can significantly reduce harm.

1. Stay Calm and Follow Instructions

- Listen to teachers, emergency responders, or officials.
- Follow alerts from sirens, announcements, or messages.
- Do not panic or leave the area unless evacuation is instructed.

2. Shelter in Place (If Directed)

- Go indoors immediately.
- Close all doors and windows.
- Turn off fans, air conditioners, and ventilation systems.
- Move to an interior room away from windows.
- Remain in place until authorities announce that it is safe.

3. Evacuation (Only If Instructed)

- Leave the area quickly and calmly.
- Follow the designated evacuation routes.
- Do not return until authorities declare the area safe.

4. Protect Yourself

- Cover your nose and mouth with a cloth or mask if necessary.
- Avoid chemical clouds, spills, or strong odors.
- Do not touch unknown liquids, powders, or containers.

5. If You Have Been Exposed to Chemicals

- Wash exposed skin with soap and water.
- Remove contaminated clothing if instructed to do so.
- Avoid rubbing your eyes or skin.
- Seek medical assistance if you feel unwell.

6. Stay Informed

- Continue monitoring official updates.
- Do not spread rumors.
- Use phones only when necessary to keep communication lines available.

Key Reminder

Your safety comes first. Stay calm, follow official notifications only, protect yourself, and wait for instructions from authorities