

King County Office of Emergency Management Podcasts

Disasters: Are you ready?

Shelter in Place

- Shelter in place is a tactic that every person should know and understand what it means
- Why would you even use the term: Shelter in Place/
- Chemical incidents commonly called hazardous materials incidents
- These can be accidents, or deliberate acts of terrorism
- If you hear the words: Shelter in Place this is what you should do:
 - If outside, go inside
 - Close all doors and window
 - Turn off the ventilation system, for your home that would be your furnace or air conditioner
 - Take your disaster kit and Go to an interior room, or one with fewer windows
 - Duct Tape and plastic (this is where the late night comedians had a field day
 - Plastic sheeting can be pre-cut to the size of your window (for the room you are in) and taped over the window opening to add another layer of protection—especially for older homes. (Chicago, curtains blowing in the wind—windows shut)
- You should have a battery operated radio as part of your disaster kit.
- Listen for the “all clear” from public safety authorities.
- These are simple steps that you can take to protect yourself and the ones you love.