

CHEMICALS

In our community

Chemicals are everywhere in businesses, on roads, in underground pipelines, on railroad tracks, and more. Chemicals are an integral part of our lifestyle.

In Marion County, chemicals are used to make medicine, pesticides, food products, household cleaners and many more important consumer products. Managing these chemicals safely is a high priority for companies and transporters that handle hazardous chemicals.

Marion County companies have a good record of handling chemicals safely, but accidents are possible. It's important to know how to protect yourself in case of a chemical accident.

You have a right to know

Chemical companies are required to submit reports to the Marion County Local Emergency Planning Committee (Marion County LEPC) each year describing the type and quantity of those chemicals that it stores and uses. You can see these reports by contacting the Marion County LEPC at 317-221-2266.

If you have additional concerns, you are welcome to attend the Marion County LEPC meetings at the Marion County Public Health Department at 3901 N. Meadows Drive. For the date and time of the next Marion County LEPC meeting, please call.



CONTACT

If you have any questions, please call the Marion County Public Health Department at: 317.221.2266

OR WRITE TO:

Administrator, Department of Water Quality and
Hazardous Materials Management
3901 Meadows Drive
Indianapolis, IN 46205
Email: mclepc@hhcorp.org



MARION COUNTY
PUBLIC
HEALTH
DEPARTMENT

Prevent. Promote. Protect.

Paid for by the Marion County LEPC.

YOU

HAVE A ROLE TO PLAY IN PROTECTING YOURSELF DURING CHEMICAL EMERGENCIES.



YOU WILL BE INFORMED TO TAKE ONE OF TWO ACTIONS:

Evacuate or shelter-in-place

Listen to instructions carefully. During some incidents, certain areas may be told to evacuate and other areas told to shelter-in-place.

If you have children, do not go to their schools. Schools have special procedures to protect children.

ACCIDENTS

How will you be notified?

If a chemical accident occurs, you may be alerted by:

- Television or radio announcements
- Alerts on special weather radio
- Sirens or public address systems on emergency response vehicles
- Door-to-door notification by emergency responders
- An electronic message

SHELTER-IN-PLACE

- 1** Go indoors immediately with your children and pets.
- 2** Close all windows, doors and fireplace dampers.
- 3** Turn off all systems that draw air into the house, including air conditioners, furnaces, kitchen and bathroom fans, window fans and clothes dryers.
- 4** Move to a room that has few windows, but do not go into the basement.
- 5** Close the door and place a damp towel underneath it.
- 6** You can increase your protection by taping up cracks near windows. You can tape plastic over windows. This is not usually necessary, but it will increase your level of protection. In some instances you may be instructed to do this.

Listen to TV and radio for updates and further instructions

When the all-clear signal is given, open up all windows and doors, turn on the furnace or air conditioner to air out the house.



EVACUATION

If there is time for you to safely leave your house without being exposed to the chemical, you will be instructed to evacuate.

Be sure to follow the route that you are instructed to take. Taking a shortcut may lead you closer to the spill and expose you to the chemical.

If you are told to evacuate:

- Don't waste time.
- Grab essential items like your wallet and medication.
- Get in your car and follow the route emergency responders instructed you to take.
- Don't take shortcuts.
- Take neighbors that don't have transportation.
- Drive safely.
- Listen to local radio for additional information.

If you are caught in your car during a chemical release:

- Your car will not provide adequate protection against chemical exposure.
- If you drive through a chemical cloud, the contaminated air will quickly enter your car.
- Close your windows and doors and shut off the fan in your car.
- Safely drive away from the release.
- Follow the directions of emergency responders.

