

# WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW!

## Shelter-in-Place HAZMAT

A Hazardous Materials (HAZMAT) incident can subject a community to a sudden release of dangerous, airborne contaminants that are immediately hazardous to the general public. Potential hazards include airborne chemical materials, biological agents or radioactive particles. These materials may be in the form of a solid, liquid, or a gas, and could be colorless and odorless. As a result, you may not even be able to see or smell the danger.

You may be directed to Shelter-in-Place due to a HAZMAT incident when there is little time to react and it would be more dangerous to be outside trying to evacuate than it would be to stay where you are. Shelter-in-Place supplies should be assembled and ready for use before the need arises.

The intent of Shelter-in-Place is to minimize the amount of contaminated outside air that enters your home, business, school or other location and await further emergency instructions indicating the hazard and danger has passed. Keep in mind that you must be prepared in the event a HAZMAT incident lasts for a prolonged period of time.

- Turn off heating, ventilation and air-conditioning (HVAC) systems.
- Close and lock windows and doors.
- Seal gaps under doorways and windows with wet towels and duct tape.
- Seal gaps around window and air conditioning units, bathroom and kitchen exhaust fans, and stove and dryer vents with duct tape and plastic sheeting, wax paper or aluminum wrap.
- Close fireplace dampers should your home or workplace have one.
- Choose a centralized location and close off non-essential rooms.
- Make sure you choose an interior area/room that has few or no windows and includes a telephone, water, toilet and can be easily sealed. A large bathroom is an excellent choice.

### DEPARTMENT OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

City and County of Honolulu

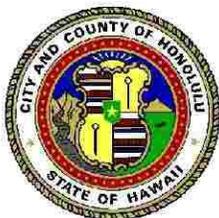
**Kirk Caldwell, Mayor**

650 South King Street ♦ Honolulu, HI 96813

(808) 723-8960 ♦ Fax (808) 524-3439

[www.oahuDEM.org](http://www.oahuDEM.org)

[dem@honolulu.gov](mailto:dem@honolulu.gov)



# Plan and Prepare Now for the Next Disaster

**Learn** – Educate yourself on disasters that can affect you and your Family.

**Plan** – Create and exercise a Family Disaster Plan. Locate a secondary meeting place and designate an off island contact.

**Individual, Family and Business Disaster Planning** – Disaster planning is everyone's business. Carefully review this information and take the time today to discuss preparedness planning with family, friends and co-workers.

## **Develop a 7-Day Disaster Supplies Kit**

Your disaster supplies kit should contain enough of the following items to last for 7-days:

- **Water** - One gallon of water per person per day for seven days for drinking and sanitation
- **Food** - Non-perishable food that does not require cooking. Popular local foods such as spam, corned beef and vienna sausages
- **Eating Utensils** – Plates, mess kits, forks and chop sticks. Don't forget a non-electric can opener for canned foods
- **Radio** - Battery-powered or hand crank radio with NOAA Weather alert
- **Light** - Flashlight and or a portable fluorescent light
- **Spare batteries** - Check annually
- **First Aid** – Get a good kit and consider enrolling in a certified first aid course
- **Whistle** – Important for signaling for help. A whistle carries much farther than the human voice and uses less energy than yelling
- **Dust Mask** – Helps to filter contaminated air
- **Sanitation** - Moist towelettes, garbage bags and plastic ties for personal sanitation
- **Tools** - Wrench or pliers to turn off utilities, duct tape
- **Maps** - Local area maps
- **Prescription** – Special medications and glasses
- **Baby** - Infant Formula and diapers
- **Pets** - Pet food and extra water for your pet

**Department of Emergency Management  
City and County of Honolulu**

**Kirk Caldwell, Mayor**

650 South King Street ♦ Honolulu, HI 96813 (808) 723-8960

♦ Fax (808) 524-3439

[www.oahuDEM.org](http://www.oahuDEM.org) email : [dem@honolulu.gov](mailto:dem@honolulu.gov)