

What is CAN and how does CAN work?

Upon the request of public safety and emergency response agencies based in Columbia County, Columbia 9-1-1 dispatchers activate a high speed telephone dialing service to notify citizens and businesses of important information. This dialing service is called "C.A.N." which stands for **Columbia Alert Network**. Notifications are delivered to targeted geographic areas by a telephone call in which a recorded message is delivered and the answering party is prompted to have the message repeated or to acknowledge receipt of the message. The system was initiated by the Columbia Emergency Planning Association (CEPA) in 2000. Our database is comprised of published, non-published, and unlisted landline numbers and is updated every two months. TTY and TDD numbers are included in our database.

Columbia Alert Network
For Additional Information or to register a cell phone, go to:
www.columbia911.com
Or (503)397-7255 Ext. 2224



The Columbia Emergency Planning Association is the Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC) for Columbia County. LEPC's are mandated by the Federal, Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act. The act also establishes State Emergency Response Commissions, which in Oregon, is the Office of State Fire Marshall. CEPA's mission as a LEPC is to enhance the protection of the citizens of Columbia County and their environment from hazardous materials incidents, natural disasters, and acts of terrorism through continuous planning, preparation, and collaboration among citizens, business, industry, and government agencies. Our members represent law enforcement, fire & rescue, elected officials, schools, business, industry, non-profits, local media, and citizens.

Email:
ddillard@cepalepc.com

**Address: PO Box 127
St. Helens, Oregon 97051**

SHELTER IN PLACE

Emergency Guidance



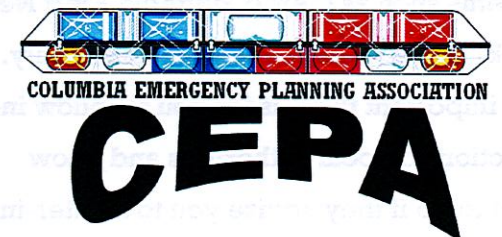
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Your Columbia

County Local

Emergency Planning

Committee (LEPC)



What is Shelter-in-Place?

One of the instructions you may be given in an emergency where hazardous materials may have been released into the atmosphere is to shelter-in-place. This is a precaution aimed to keep you safe while remaining indoors. Shelter-in-place means selecting a small, interior room, with no or few windows, and taking refuge there. It does not mean sealing off your entire home or office building. If you are told to shelter-in-place, follow the instructions provided in this Fact Sheet.

When might I need to Shelter-In-Place?



Chemical, biological, or radiological contaminants may be released accidentally or intentionally into the environment. Should this occur, information will be provided by local authorities on television and radio stations and possibly by telephone alert systems such as CAN (Columbia Alert Network) on protecting you and your family. The important thing is for you to follow instructions of local authorities and know what to do if they advise you to shelter-in-place.

Steps for Shelter-In-Place

1. Stay Calm.
2. Bring children and pets indoors immediately.
3. Close and lock all windows and outside doors.
4. Turn off all fans, heating and air conditioning systems, close exterior doors and windows.
5. Close the fireplace damper.
6. Gather disaster supplies and battery powered radio.
7. Go to an interior room ideally without windows. In case of chemical threat some chemicals are heavier than air and may seep into the basement.
8. Use duct tape and plastic sheeting or wet towels to seal doors, windows, vents, and exhaust fans.
9. Listen to the radio or TV for emergency instructions and Shelter-In-Place until you are told all is safe.
10. Use the telephone for emergencies ONLY.
11. DO NOT call 9-1-1 for information.
12. If you have symptoms of exposure or other emergency call 9-1-1 immediately.



Make an Emergency Kit

Here are some items to include:

1. "Special Needs" items for family, formula and supplies for infants, items for older people or those with disabilities.
2. First aid supplies.
3. Prescription meds for household.
4. Flashlight and Battery powered radio.
5. Sleeping bag and extra shoes.
6. Water and Food. A gallon of water per person per day. Canned and dried foods are easy to store.
7. Tools (duct tape, garbage bags, manual can opener, hammer, screwdrivers, scissors, etc.)
8. Cash or Travelers Checks.
9. Cell phone if available.
10. Snacks.
11. Reading materials / games if kids are present.
12. Pet supplies.
13. Towels.

