



Nuclear Accidents | During Hazard Preparation Checklist

What Should I Do During Nuclear Accident?

- If a nuclear accident occurs and there is a risk that the radioactive material released could reach the Hartford area, state and local authorities will activate warning sirens and other methods of alert, such as CT Alert.
- If you receive an alert, tune your television or radio to the Emergency Alert System, and follow the instructions given. Your instructions may include directions for evacuating or for sheltering-in-place to reduce any possible exposure to radiation.
- If you are told to evacuate, keep the car windows and vents closed as you travel, and use the internal recirculating air feature within the vehicle.
- If you are advised to remain indoors, turn off the air conditioner, ventilation fans, furnace, and other air intakes.
- Shield yourself by placing heavy, dense material between you and the radiation source. Go to a basement or other underground area, if possible.
- Do not use the telephone unless absolutely necessary.
- Keep your pets with you and take them with you if you evacuate. You will not be allowed to return for them until local authorities say that it is safe to return. Shelter livestock and give them stored feed, if time permits.
- If you suspect you have come into contact with radioactive particles, you will need to decontaminate yourself. Decontamination from radiation is relatively simple because the material is carried on dust particles. You can eliminate 95 percent of radioactive materials by simply taking two actions:
 - Taking a thorough shower (including a very thorough shampoo of your hair).
 - Removing your clothing and shoes, sealing them in a plastic bag, and placing the bag outside the house.
- If pets may have come into contact with radioactive materials, shower with your pet if possible. If you shower first and then deal with your pet, you may re-contaminate yourself. Be sure to lather fur and rinse thoroughly. Afterward, keep direct control of your pet to control what it contacts.