

## Simple Steps to Protect Yourself and Others During a Chemical Emergency

If you are alerted that a chemical incident has occurred, go inside immediately and listen for television or radio announcements. You will be informed of the hazard and affected areas. You will also be informed to take one of two protective actions: evacuate or shelter-in-place.

### If you are told to evacuate

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

### If you are told to shelter-in-place

- Go indoors immediately.
- Close all windows, doors and fireplace dampers.
- Turn off the furnace, air conditioner, kitchen and bathroom fans and clothes dryer.
- Move to a room with few windows, BUT NOT THE BASEMENT.
- Close the door and place a damp towel under it.
- Cover cracks near windows with tape or plastic.
- Turn on a radio or TV and listen for further instructions.
- When the all clear signal is given, open your windows to air out your house and go outdoors.

**For additional information about evacuation or shelter-in-place**, please refer to the Marion County Local Emergency Planning Committee brochure "You Have A Role To Play In Protecting Yourself During Chemical Emergencies."



## 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, 2nd floor  
Indianapolis, IN 46205  
Email: [mclepc@hhcorp.org](mailto:mclepc@hhcorp.org)

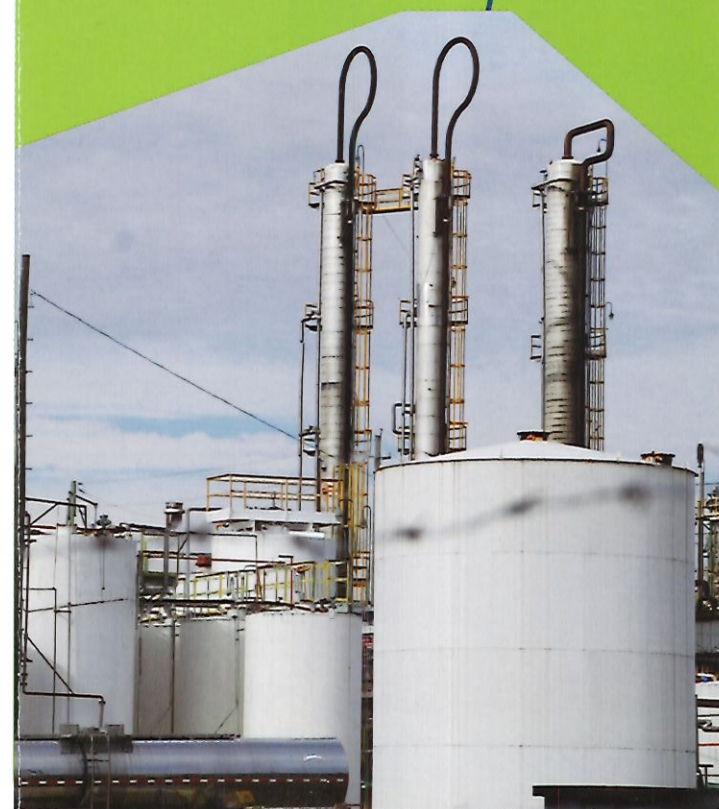


**MARION COUNTY**  
**PUBLIC**  
**HEALTH**  
**DEPARTMENT**

**Prevent. Promote. Protect.**

Paid for by the Marion County Local Emergency Planning Committee.

# It takes chemicals to make stuff





**Companies that have an extremely hazardous substance or more than 10,000 pounds of any chemical at their plant must file a report with the Marion County Local Emergency Planning Committee (Marion County LEPC).**

**This report, called a Tier II report, contains information about the company, their chemicals and how they are stored.**

**There are more than 500 companies in Marion County that submit reports to the Marion County LEPC.**

**All of these reports are available to the public.**



## **Tier II reports are used by the Marion County LEPC to plan for safe responses to chemical emergencies.**

There are a lot of things companies do to prevent the release of chemicals:

- Alarms are used to warn workers of leaks.
- Secondary containment is used around some types of storage tanks to contain the chemicals if a spill occurs.
- Containers and tankers are unloaded within safety dikes.

## **Companies regularly inspect pipes and joints for leaks or wear.**

- Workers are trained on how to handle, store, use and dispose of chemicals safely.
- Workers wear safety equipment and are properly equipped to respond to releases.
- Companies are also responsible for maintaining emergency plans for their plant.



**Contact companies near you and ask them about the chemicals they have and what they are doing to prevent and prepare for accidents.**

## **What is the Marion County Local Emergency Planning Committee?**

The Marion County LEPC is made up of volunteers from the fire department, law enforcement, public health department, hospitals and concerned citizens in the community.

The Marion County LEPC is responsible for developing a plan for safe and effective responses to chemical releases.

The plan details how public response agencies will respond to any chemical release.

## **The Marion County Local Emergency Planning Committee has two major objectives:**

### **1. To plan for safe and effective responses to chemical incidents by:**

- Evaluating emergency responses to help plan for possible accidents.
- Encouraging training and communication between emergency response agencies and companies.
- Purchasing response equipment and providing training for responders.

### **2. To increase citizen awareness of the chemicals in our community and educate the public about emergency procedures by:**

- Responding to citizen requests for information about companies and their chemicals.
- Encouraging companies to talk to citizens or neighborhood groups about the chemicals in their community.