

ASCENSION PARISH EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS GUIDE

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Helping our citizens learn how to be prepared for emergencies is a priority. The Ascension Parish Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness (AP OHSEP) has produced this all-hazards preparedness guide to generate public awareness and encourage you to develop your own readiness initiatives for your family. With the support of Ascension Parish President, Tommy Martinez and the Parish Council, we hope this guide will prepare you and your family to be self-sufficient following a major disaster.

Ascension Parish residents will find this all-hazards guide to be a convenient and useful resource for emergency awareness and preparedness information.



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by the financial support of the
**Ascension Parish Chemical
Industry's CAER Committee**
www.caer.memberclicks.net



WWW.ASCENSIONPARISH.NET/OHSEP



Kenny Matassa
Parish President

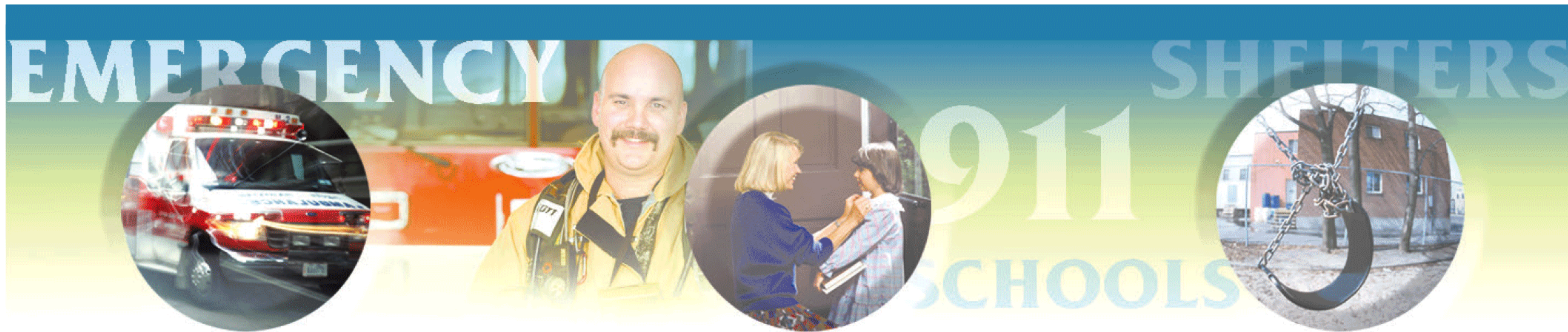


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Mission Statement

The mission of the Ascension Parish Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness is to serve the citizens of the Parish through effective planning for natural and man-made disasters. Our goal is to save lives and to protect property through the coordination of an integrated emergency management system with all emergency response organizations, support services and volunteers. We will be an advocate for greater community efforts, including educating the general public to mitigate and prepare for potential emergencies. We will support efforts to train and exercise emergency responders in both the public and private sectors. We will manage and coordinate efforts toward a rapid recovery from disasters with an effective disaster assistance program. This office will be the point of distribution of Homeland Security information and intelligence to agencies throughout the parish. We are committed to effective actions designed to prevent some disasters and to reduce the impact of those over which we have no control.



Calling 9-1-1

During a disaster, 911 will be inundated with calls. You may even receive a busy signal due to a system overload. This is why it is very important that you follow these simple steps.

DO NOT CALL 911 UNLESS YOU HAVE AN EMERGENCY TO REPORT

For non-emergency information, call the Ascension Parish Sheriff's Office at 225-621-8300 or you can visit www.ascensionsheriff.com

To Obtain Emergency Information Call The Ascension Parish Community Information Line At 1-866-380-2303

- ➔ If you need to report power, phone, water or other utility outages notify the appropriate utility company. Note: Keep these important phone numbers with your Disaster Supplies Kit.
- ➔ Keep a phone that does not require a power source to use during times of power outages.
- ➔ Listen to local radio and television stations for instructions and information.
- ➔ In the event of a phone outage, go to the closest Fire Station to report all emergencies.
- ➔ Remember to remain calm when speaking to a 911 operator and do not hang up until they instruct you to do so.



IMPORTANT!!

Any Person Using 9-1-1 Falsely Can Be Sentenced To 6 Months In Jail And A Maximum Fine Of \$500. Parents Are Held Liable For Juvenile Offenders.

Emergency Information Notification & Alerting

How to stay informed during an emergency

SOCIAL MEDIA

www.ascensionparish.net/ohsep
www.twitter.com/ascensionohsep
www.apsb.org
www.facebook.com/apohsep
www.twitter.com/ascensionparish



Facebook Pages: Ascension Parish Homeland Security,
Ascension Parish Sheriff's Office & Ascension Parish Schools.

TELEVISION

Ascension Parish CH 21	WVLA (NBC Channel 33)
WAFB (CBS Channel 9)	WGMB (FOX 44 Channel 6)
WBRZ (ABC Channel 2)	Gonzales & 12 (Donaldsonville)

ALERT/NOTIFICATIONS

Sign up with www.tinyurl.com/ascensiongov to receive alerts by phone, app, text and email.
Community Information Line: 1-866-380-2303



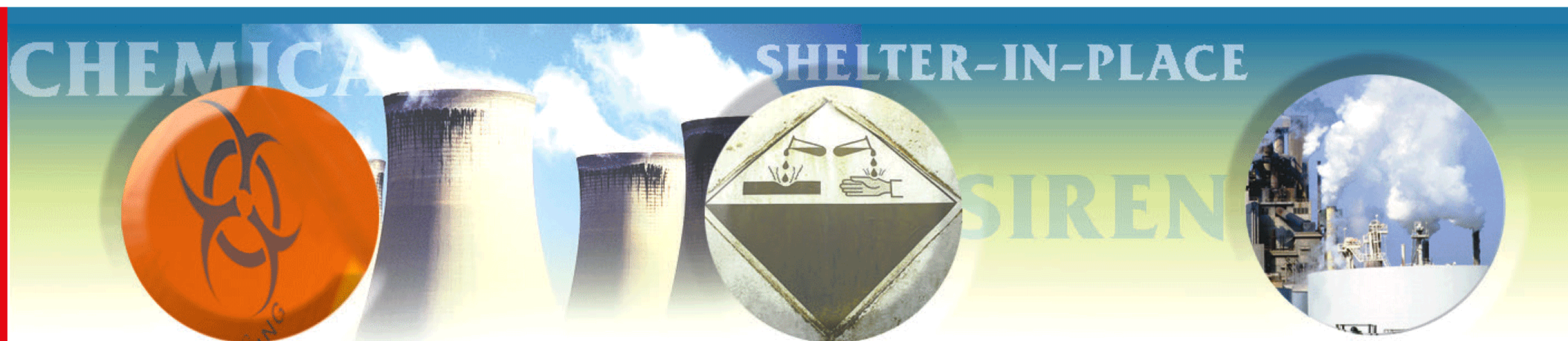
RADIO

KKAY	AM	1590
WYNK	FM	101.5
WFME	FM	102.5
KQXL	FM	106.5
WNXX	FM	104.9

Information regarding schools during an emergency visit the Ascension Parish School Board website at www.apsb.org or call the school board offices at 225-391-7000 or 225-257-2000. Please do not call individual school offices.

Information regarding the opening of shelters will be announced on Parish cable TV CH 21 and KKAY AM 1590 radio station. Also visit our facebook page for continuous updates.

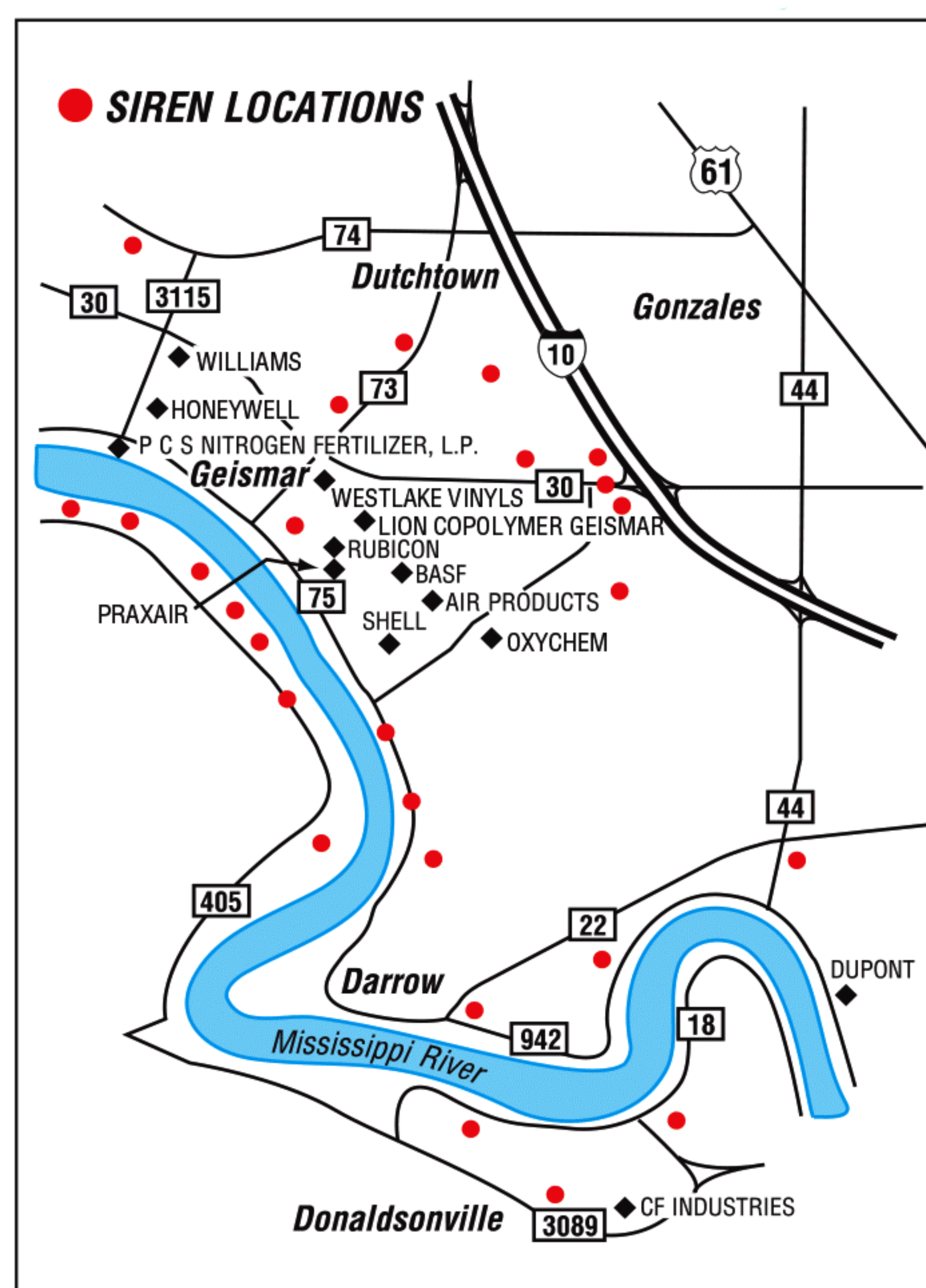
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Chemical Emergencies: Shelter-in-Place



www.caer.memberclicks.net



WHAT TO DO IN A CHEMICAL EMERGENCY

Who is CAER?

Several Ascension Parish chemical companies have joined forces with the Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness and the Sheriff's Office to better educate area residents about industry's role in the community. The result is the Ascension Parish Chemical Industry's Community Awareness Emergency Response Committee, or CAER. The CAER Committee's duty is to inform the community about the chemical industry, what it manufactures, and what chemicals are used.

To better inform the community of a chemical emergency, the CAER Committee has installed a Community Siren Emergency Alerting System. This system has 26 sirens located in surrounding areas of the parish where CAER member chemical facilities are located. These sirens may be activated in the event of a chemical emergency that may affect the nearby community. These sirens can normally be heard within 2.5 miles of each chemical facility. Additionally, the Ascension Parish Telephone alerting system, First Call, can be activated to alert the public.

I HEAR THE COMMUNITY EMERGENCY ALERT SIREN. WHAT SHOULD I DO?

The Community Siren Emergency Alerting System is tested each Monday at noon. **IF YOU HEAR THE SIRENS AT ANY OTHER TIME**, stay calm and immediately follow the steps to **SHELTER-IN-PLACE**.

Shelter-in-place is a precaution aimed to keep you and your family safe while you remain in your house, school, or business. This is not the same thing as going to an evacuation shelter in case of a storm. Shelter-in-Place means going to an interior room inside your house, school, or business.

✓ STEP 1: GO INSIDE

Immediately, go inside a building such as your home, school, or office. If your children are at school or a daycare center, **DO NOT** attempt to pick up your children. The teachers are trained to protect your children and will follow the Shelter-in-Place procedures.

✓ STEP 2: CLOSE ALL DOORS AND WINDOWS

Make sure you close and lock all doors and windows to help seal them off. You may also cover windows with plastic sheeting and seal cracks around the doors and windows with duct tape.

✓ STEP 3: TURN OFF FANS, AIR CONDITIONERS AND HEATERS

Turn off attic and ceiling fans, heaters and air conditioners. Close all air vents and ventilation systems to prevent outside air from coming in to your home. If you have a fire place, check the damper and close it **ONLY IF** there is no fire in the fireplace.

✓ STEP 4: TURN ON A RADIO AND/OR LOCAL CABLE TV

Turn on a radio to 1590 AM and any local cable TV station for further information or instructions regarding the chemical emergency.

✓ STEP 5: STAY OFF THE PHONE

Do not use the telephone unless absolutely necessary because emergency personnel may call to give specific instructions on what to do.

✓ STEP 6: STAY INSIDE UNTIL GIVEN THE ALL CLEAR

Stay inside until the **"ALL CLEAR"** siren is sounded. Stay tuned to the radio and/or cable television until the **"ALL CLEAR"** message is broadcasted. After the **"ALL CLEAR"** message is given, you may resume normal activities.

You may want to open all doors and window, and turn on ventilation systems to air out your home, school, or business.

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