

Compliments of

# GREENE COUNTY EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY

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*Making Greene County  
a Safer Place to Live*



## WHAT WILL YOU DO IF THE BOMB GOES OFF?

### WILL YOU SURVIVE?...

Tensions are rising all across the world, especially in the Middle East. Several nations have or are thought to have nuclear weapons. Many terrorist organizations are trying to acquire nuclear weapons. In the event of a nuclear incident, *what you do can greatly increase your own and your family's chance of survival.*

Here are a few tips:

**ABOVE ALL ELSE: KEEP YOUR HEAD. A PANICKED MIND WILL CAUSE PANICKED ACTIONS THAT CAN COST YOU YOUR LIFE IN A CRISIS.**

If you live anywhere in the local area, get inside a stable building immediately. *Do not look at the flash or fireball, it can blind you.*

○ **Go deep inside:**

- Find the nearest and strongest building you can and go inside to avoid radioactive dust outside.
- If a better shelter, such as a multi-story building or basement, can be reached within a few minutes, go there immediately.
- If you are in a car, find a building for shelter immediately. Cars do not provide adequate protection from radioactive material.
- Go to the basement or the center of the middle floor of a multi-story building (for example, the center floors [e.g., 3 – 8] of a 10-story building).
- These instructions may feel like they go against your natural instinct to evacuate from a dangerous area; however, health risks from radiation exposure can be greatly reduced by:
  - Putting building walls, brick, concrete, or soil between you and the radioactive material outside, and
  - Increasing the distance between you and the exterior walls, roofs, and ground, where radioactive material is settling.

○ **Stay inside:**

- Do not come out until you are instructed to do so by authorities or emergency responders.

- All schools and daycare facilities are now in lockdown. Adults and children in those facilities are taking the same protective actions you are taking and they will not be released to go outside for any reason until they are instructed to do so by emergency responders.
- **Stay tuned to television and radio broadcasts for important updates:**
  - If your facility has a National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Weather Radio, this is a good source of information.
  - If you have been instructed to stay inside, stay tuned to the media because these instructions will change.
    - Radiation levels are extremely dangerous after a nuclear detonation, but the levels reduce rapidly in just hours to a few days.
    - During the time when radiation levels are the highest, it is safest to stay inside, sheltered away from the material outside.
  - When evacuating is in your best interest, you will be instructed to do so.
  - People in the path of the radioactive plume – downwind from the detonation - may also be asked to take protective measures.

## **WHAT TO DO IF A NUCLEAR WEAPON EXPLODES IN A FOREIGN COUNTRY:**

- Remember, you are safer than if it was exploded in the United States.
- Remain calm. Don't panic.
- Don't let news reports panic you either.
- You can keep others, including children, from panicking by the way you act.
- Make only necessary telephone calls--especially cell phone calls, since you could cause the system to collapse.
- Avoid panic buying of food and gasoline--you only make the problem bigger. Instead, have a supply of food, water, and necessities (including toilet paper, baby food, etc.).
- Make only necessary auto trips. Keep the roads clear. Drivers will be distracted and frightened, and could cause accidents.
- Children will be safe at school. Going after them only makes things worse.
- Keep informed by the latest news.
- Don't be involved in hate crimes. Don't take the law into your own hands.
- If your place of residence and work is downwind 320 miles from a targeted city in another country, then you should get into an underground shelter as soon as possible and stay there until it is safe.
- The best advice of all is: ***Be prepared not scared.***