



Office of Emergency Management



Cuyahoga County
Together We Thrive

At-A-Glance

Nuclear Blast

A nuclear blast is an explosion with intense light and heat, a damaging pressure wave, and widespread radioactive material that can contaminate the air, water, and ground surfaces for miles around. All nuclear devices cause deadly effects when exploded, including blinding light, intense heat (thermal radiation), initial nuclear radiation, blast, fires started by the heat pulse and secondary fires caused by the destruction.

Before a Nuclear Blast...

- Build an Emergency Supply Kit.
- Make a Family Emergency Plan.
- Find out from officials if any public buildings in your community have been designated as fallout shelters. If none have been designated, make your own list of potential shelters near your home, workplace and school. These places would include basements or the windowless center area of middle floors in high-rise buildings, as well as subways and tunnels.
- If you live in an apartment building or high-rise, talk to the manager about the safest place in the building for sheltering and about providing for building occupants until it is safe to go out.
- During periods of heightened threat increase your disaster supplies to be adequate for up to two weeks.

During a Nuclear Blast...

- Listen for official information and follow the instructions provided by emergency response personnel. Based on what is known about the threat, you may be asked to take shelter, go to a specific location or evacuate the area.
- If an attack warning is issued, take cover as quickly as you can, below ground if possible, and stay there until instructed to do otherwise.
- Stay where you are, even if you are separated from your family. Inside is the safest place for all people in the impacted area. It can save your life.
- Expect to stay inside for at least 24 hours unless told otherwise by authorities.
- Do not look at the flash or fireball - it can blind you.
- If you were outside during or after the blast, get clean as soon as possible, to remove radioactive material that may have settled on your body.

After a Nuclear Blast...

- If you were outside during or after the blast, get clean as soon as possible, to remove radioactive material that may have settled on your body.

Did You Know?

A nuclear device can range from a weapon carried by an inter-continental missile launched by a hostile nation or terrorist organization, to a small portable nuclear device transported by an individual.

For additional information on nuclear blasts, go to www.ready.gov.

Source: Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)



A Preparedness Resource from
Cuyahoga County Office of Emergency Management
P: 216-443-5700 | ema@cuyahogacounty.us
Ready.cuyahogacounty.us


[@CuyahogaOEM](https://twitter.com/CuyahogaOEM)
Facebook.com/CuyahogaOEM