

WHAT IF YOU ARE NEAR THE BLAST WHEN IT OCCURS?

Turn away and close and cover your eyes to prevent damage to your sight.

Drop to the ground face down and place your hands under your body.

Remain flat until the heat and two shock waves have passed (CDC, 2011).

If you are outside when the blast occurs:

Find something to cover your mouth and nose, such as a scarf, handkerchief, or other cloth.

Your priority is to remove your clothing since it may be contaminated, and if possible, take a shower, wash your hair, and change your clothes (CDC, 2011).

If you must be outdoors and unprotected when fallout is still accumulating, do not remove your clothing. Gently dust off any visible fallout dust while being careful not to breathe or swallow the dust (NSSOSTP, 2010).

Once you have some overhead cover or no visible fallout is accumulating, remove the outer layer of clothing (coat or jacket), place it inside a bag if available, and store it away from people. Instructions for appropriate disposition of contaminated clothing should be provided by authorities as applicable (NSSOSTP, 2010).

If the weather is severely cold and you need to keep your jacket, keep dusting it off until you have access to clean replacement clothing or you are no longer exposed to cold temperatures (NSSOSTP, 2010).

If you are not wearing any coat or jacket and have only a single layer of clothing (shirt), keep dusting it off until you have access to clean clothing (NSSOSTP, 2010).

Get to a shelter, basement, or other underground area, preferably located away from the direction that the wind is blowing.

Remove any dust from your clothes by brushing, shaking, and wiping in a ventilated area. However, cover your mouth and nose while you do this.

When removing the clothing be careful of any clothing that has to be pulled over the head. Try to either cut the article off or prevent the outer layer from coming in contact with the nose and mouth area (CRCPD, 2006).

Remove clothing since it may be contaminated; if possible, take a shower, wash your hair, and change clothes before you enter the shelter (CDC, 2011).