

A chemical attack is the deliberate release of a toxic gas, liquid or solid that can poison people and the environment.

### **Possible Signs of Chemical Threat**

- Many people suffering from watery eyes, twitching, choking, having trouble breathing or losing coordination.
- Many sick or dead birds, fish or small animals are also cause for suspicion.

### **If You See Signs of Chemical Attack: Find Clean Air Quickly**

- Quickly try to **define the impacted area** or where the chemical is coming from, if possible.
- Take immediate action to **get away**.
- If the chemical is inside a building where you are, get out of the building without passing through the contaminated area, if possible.
- If you can't get out of the building or find clean air without passing through the area where you see signs of a chemical attack, it may be better to move as far away as possible and "[shelter-in-place](#)."
- If you are outside, quickly decide what is the fastest way to find clean air. Consider if you can get out of the area or if you should go inside the closest building and "shelter-in-place."

### **If You Think You Have Been Exposed to a Chemical**

If your eyes are watering, your skin is stinging, and you are having trouble breathing, you may have been exposed to a chemical.

- If you think you may have been **exposed to a chemical, strip immediately and wash**.
- Look for a hose, fountain, or any source of **water**, and wash with **soap** if possible, being sure not to scrub the chemical into your skin.
- Seek emergency **medical attention**.