DEALING WITH TEAR GAS & PEPPER SPRAY

#WeKeepUsSafe

Tear Gas and/or Pepper Spray are sometimes used as tactics against protestors by law enforcement.

Here are some tips in the unfortunate event you get tear gassed and/or pepper sprayed.

Do not rub it in

Decontaminate your hands before you touch any part of your body.

Flush your eyes

Use clean, cool water to flush and clean out your eyes, nose and mouth. If you do not have access to clean water, use saline.

Protect yourself

Gas masks provide the best facial protection, if properly fitted and sealed. Alternatively, goggles, respirators, or a wet bandana over the nose and mouth will help.

Stay calm. Panicking increases the irritation. Breathe slowly to ground yourself and remember it is only temporary.

Clear out, clean out

Blow your nose, rinse your mouth, cough and spit. Try to get as far away from the source as possible and keep your distance from others.

Remove contact lenses

Remove the lenses or get someone to remove them for you, with clean, uncontaminated fingers. Destroy the lenses after exposure.

NOTE: The effects of pepper spray can last longer than tear gas. Cultivate calmness. Do not panic. Continue to decontaminate at a safe distance from others.

This is part of our Protest Safety Series to help you stay safe out on the frontlines! More at: acrossfrontlines.org/protestsafety.