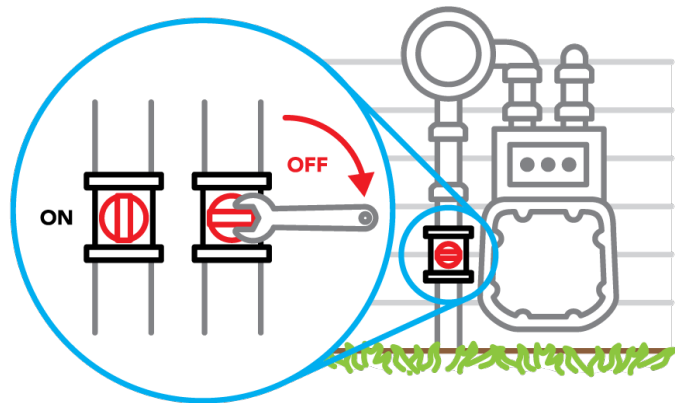


Prepare

in a
Year



8. Utility Safety



Remember: Right is Tight. Left is Loose.

Natural Gas

Natural gas leaks and explosions are responsible for a significant number of fires following any major earthquake. Here are some steps to shut off the natural gas:

1. Locate the shut-off valve (make sure this valve will turn. To shut off the gas, turn the valve 90 degrees or 1/4 turn, so that it crosses the pipe).
2. If your valve is rusted open, do NOT put WD-40™ lubricant on it. It may corrode the O-rings that allow the valve to turn.
3. Attach a wrench to the meter or to the wall directly behind the meter.
4. Choose a crescent wrench that is at least 12-inches long.
5. Adjust it to fit your valve before hanging it behind the meter in case it rusts.

Turn gas off after an earthquake

Shut off the gas immediately only if you:

- Smell the odor of gas (rotten eggs).
- Hear a hissing sound.
- The meter dials spin more rapidly than normal.

Do not use matches, lighters, open flame appliances or operate any electrical switches until you are sure no gas leaks exist. Sparks from electrical switches could ignite the gas.

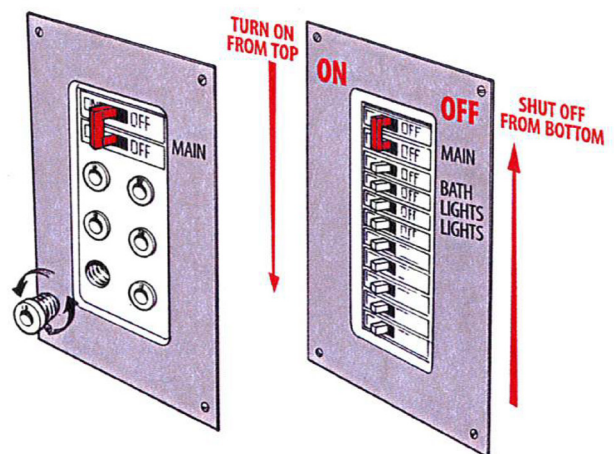
If you smell natural gas, immediately get everyone out of and away from the house. Open the windows and doors to provide ventilation. Shut off the gas at the meter.

Propane

Have your home's propane tank properly installed by a qualified professional and serviced on a regular basis.

Propane tanks are extremely flammable.

- Do NOT store tanks in a building, garage, or enclosure.
- When not connected for use, keep tank valve turned OFF.
- Never store a spare tank beneath a grill.
- Always store tanks upright.
- Never store a tank in temperatures of 125 F degrees or more.
- Never use or store a propane tank indoors.
- Do not try to repair a damaged tank or tank valve.
- Do not use portable propane heaters, stoves, or lanterns in tents, campers, truck caps, RVs, or other unventilated enclosures, especially while sleeping.



Always shut off all the individual circuits before shutting off the main circuit breaker.

Electricity

Electrical sparks have the potential of igniting natural gas if it is leaking. Preparing to shut off electricity:

- Locate your electricity circuit box
- Teach all responsible household members how to shut off the electricity to the entire house.

Check the cords of appliances in your home as well as the plugs and connectors. Make sure they are not frayed, cracked or damaged or placed under rugs or carpets, resting on furniture, or located in high traffic areas.

- Do not nail or staple cords to walls, floor, or any other objects
- Inspect all outdoor connections, appliances and tools for frayed cords, broken plugs and cracked or broken housings.