

Disasters may disrupt your home's utilities and emergency responders may be overloaded. Therefore, it's important that you prepare now...

- ☑ **Know where your utility shut-offs are located.**
- ☑ **Know how, and when it's appropriate, to shut off your utilities.**
- ☑ **Know the emergency phone numbers and websites for reporting outages.**

ELECTRICITY: A disaster can disrupt your electrical service or cause wires and electrical fixtures to separate, creating shock and fire hazards.

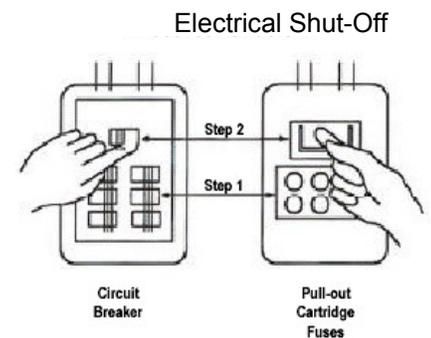


What To Do Now:

- Make sure you know where your main electrical panel or fuse box (it is most commonly on an interior wall near your electric meter).
- If your residence has a fuse box, maintain a supply of spare fuses of the correct amperage.
- Keep a working flashlight and a battery-powered radio accessible, with extra batteries for each.

What To Do When You Lose Power:

- Check the circuit breakers (or fuses) to confirm that the problem is not solely in your house.
 - ◊ **Circuit Breaker Panels:** Shut off the electricity by turning the main breaker switch to the "off" position. If you're not sure which breaker is which, you can turn all of them off.
 - ◊ **Fuse Boxes:** Pull out the two main (cartridge) fuses.
- If you see sparks or broken/frayed wires, or if you smell hot insulation, shut off your electricity immediately.
- Turn off all electrical equipment (e.g., computers, TVs, lights, heat/AC, etc.) to prevent fires and system overload when power is restored.
- Do not stand in water while cutting/restoring power to your breakers or fuses.
- Turn on a porch light and an interior light so you, and utility crews, will know when service is restored.
- If you use a generator for backup power, follow the manufacturer's instructions and remember to:
 - ◊ Connect lights and appliances directly to the generator (not the electrical system);
 - ◊ Ensure that the generator is well ventilated and that exhaust is not entering windows, doors, or heat/AC intakes.



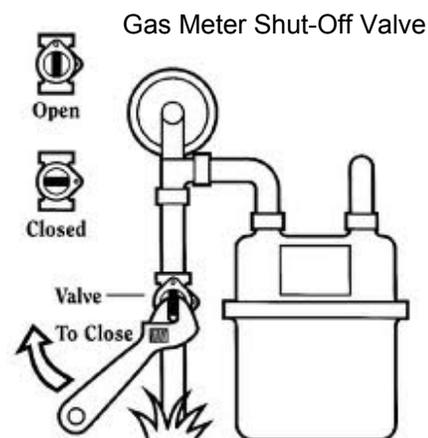
NATURAL GAS: Earthquakes can rupture gas lines and/or indoor connections. A strong odor of gas inside your home might indicate a leak..

What To Do Now:

- Locate your gas meter and shut-off valve.
- If you don't have a manual master shut-off valve, have one installed.
- Be sure you have the correct tool needed to turn the valve off; an adjustable wrench or other simple tool should work.

What To Do When You Have a Gas Leak:

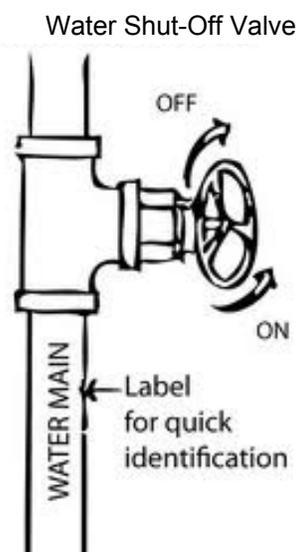
- Get everyone out of the house and a safe distance away.
- Turn the rectangular knob on the meter clockwise until it's horizontal.
- If you turn off your gas at the meter, service can be restored only by a professional. If you don't suspect a leak, don't turn off your gas; you may unnecessarily deprive yourself of an important utility.
- DO NOT use your phone (landline, cellular, or smart phone) or any other portable electronic devices; these can cause a spark that could trigger an explosion.
- DO NOT use matches or other open flames, or operate any electrical switches or appliances.



WATER: Earthquakes and freezing weather can rupture water pipes and cause flooding if not turned off quickly.

What To Do Now:

- Locate the shut-off valve for your house. **TIP:** the main shut-off valve is at your water meter, but there may also be one closer to, or in, your house.
- If you do not have a shut-off valve for your house, have one installed.
- Some common places to look for your master shut-off valve are:
 - ◇ In the crawlspace or basement where the water line enters the house;
 - ◇ In the garage where the water line enters the wall or ceiling, near the water heater;
 - ◇ Near the washing-machine hookup;
 - ◇ Outside, near your home's foundation (possibly protected by a concrete or clay pipe ring).



What To Do If You Have a Major Leak (e.g., broken pipe):

- Shut off the water at the master shut-off valve; you may want to shut it off at the meter as well.
- If you have standing water in your home, you may need to shut off your electricity as well; **do not try to use an electrical appliance or even flip a switch if you're standing in water.**
- In a major emergency, it may be days before you can obtain professional repairs and clean-up.

SEWER: Earthquakes, landslides, or floods can damage sewer lines. To avoid contaminating your home and possibly your drinking water, be sure the system works properly before using it.

For additional safety information visit www.tvfr.com