

9 Steps to Take Right After a Disaster

Planning + Preparedness + Practice = Resilience

Step 1. Take care of your loved ones.

Use under-bed kits for each member of your family. Protect head, hands and feet with a hardhat or bike helmet, leather gloves, sturdy shoes, flashlight and whistle.

Step 2. Check on the natural gas or propane at your home.

Shut off ONLY if you have a fire, smell rotten eggs, hear hissing, or see the dials on the meter turning unusually fast. DO NOT turn the meter back on - this requires a certified technician.

Step 3. Shut off the water to the house at your home's shut off – not at the street.

This protects against pollutants from outside, and traps drinkable water in your home's pipes and water heater.

Step 4. Shut off electrical panel, if necessary.

Shut off individual breakers first, and then shut of the main.

Step 5. Place OK or HELP sign (provided in this workbook) on your front door or window.

Posting helps neighbors quickly locate those in need first.

Step 6. Put your fire extinguisher in front of your home if not needed, for easy neighborhood access.

Step 7. Go to neighborhood gathering site.

Step 8. Divide into 4 teams:

Team 1 – Listen to **91.5 FM** or **1610 AM**, HAM or NOAA Radio, and Walkie Talkie (FRS) **Channel #8**

Team 2 – Check on special needs neighbors: elderly, disabled, children home alone.

Team 3 – Check on all natural gas meters and propane tanks, and shut them off, if necessary.

Team 4 – Check on all homes with OK & Help signs displayed. Be prepared to give first aid.

Step 9. Return to Gathering Site.

Review neighbor's status, regroup, reassess, and decide next actions.



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