

PEP—Prioritized Emergency Preparedness—Checklist #2: Home

Use PEP #2's companion Source list to shop locally for needed supplies.

Email ncaphillhub@gmail.com for live links, & PEP Checklists #1 & #3—Budget Water & Food, & Go Bags.

UTILITIES FIRST!—

Pre-disaster: In addition to PEP #1's personal supply, plan to use these bonus water sources from your living space.

- [Find, label, & educate family on how to turn off the gas \(outside\) & the main water valve \(in the house\).](#)
- [Secure water heater](#) (usually a source of 30-50 gallons) with a seismic strap kit.
- Print & store near the water heater these instructions [for accessing safe drinking water](#), "[EPA Emergency Disinfection of Drinking Water](#)," & essential supplies (see Local Source list).
- Store 3-4 feet of plastic tubing & rinsed empty jugs at lowest faucet in the house & under sinks.
- Consider purchasing a [WaterBob bathtub liner](#) to trap clean water asap after a disaster.

Post-disaster: when gas could leak & water supply to your house could be disrupted.

- If you don't have an auto-shut off valve & you smell gas, shut off valve at meter with your gas wrench.
- Shut off water supply inside the house to prevent backflow of contaminated water, & the effects of gravity draining it from your hot water & toilet tanks unless you trap it by closing the main house valve.
- Gather ice cubes as soon as possible. Melting will occur in a half-full freezer within a day of no power.
- To use hot water heater water, first turn off electrical or gas supply, & then close off the cold-water supply line to the water heater. [Continue following instructions](#). Collect the water in containers & disinfect each gallon with 4 - 5 drops of liquid bleach. Allow 20 to 30 minutes before drinking. (Note: If the water is cloudy &/or from an unsafe origin, 16 drops of liquid chlorine bleach are recommended.)
- To use water in the piping, let air into it by turning on the highest faucet in the house. Some water will trickle out. Then, leaving the highest faucet on, obtain water from house's lowest faucet.
- To use toilet tank water (not the bowl), bail or [siphon](#) into jugs. Disinfect as with water heater water.
- Post-quake tip: don't ration your water, drink what you need when you need it.

SANITATION SECOND!

- Emergency toilet—buy or [make a Twin-Bucket Emergency Toilet](#). See accompanying Source List.

PLAN TO CONNECT WITH LOVED ONES

- Agree on a meeting place & who will handle kids, elders, pets. [Locate your closest Emergency Hub](#).
- Designate an Out-Of-Town Contact (OOAC) (Spokane or further away) to receive your status updates.
 - Add their phone, carrier, & email address to all Go Bags & Get Home Bags you pack.
 - Have family members & your OOAC practice messaging & relaying status updates back to family.
 - Always note the date & time of day in every voice or text message you send out.
- Get [ICE](#) (In Case of Emergency), [Seattle Smart 911](#), & [Seattle](#) & [King County](#) Alerts for advance info.

PLAN TO SHELTER SAFELY

- Consider installation of a seismic gas shut-off valve to mitigate gas-related, post-quake fires.
- Buy a rechargeable fire extinguisher, recharge your current FE if needed, & [practice](#) how to use one.
- Assess where safest places around you would be to ride out a disaster &/or to access stored items.
- Store hard hat, sturdy shoes, socks, leather gloves, coat, flashlight/headlamp in bags tied to bedposts.
- Place power outage lights, or flashlights, in rooms that are hard to get out of without light.
- Lie in every bed in your house & look up/around – what might fall on you? Remove it or secure it.
- Remove, secure, or lower breakable items & pictures/shelves/heavy furniture in your house & office.
- Store bike tire patch kit, hand pump, bike tools, & a [free offline bike map](#) of the city & your area.
- [Supplement a basic First Aid Kit](#). Include N95 masks, & ginger candies or OTC motion sickness meds.
- Store emergency radio, extra batteries, charging devices (consider solar- & propane-powered).
- Store extra basic hand tools, fasteners, ropes, & tarps to fix minor damage or create interim shelter.
- [Print these signs](#). Store with duct tape near windows visible easily from the street. Post as needed.
- Scan important documents onto USB drive &/or "cloud" & store safely. Use a [basic](#) or [complete](#) guide.
- Know how to manually open, close, & lock electric doors, such as your garage door.