

PIERCE COUNTY ALERT!

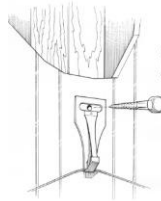
IF WE CAN'T REACH YOU, WE CAN'T ALERT YOU.

Pierce County ALERT is Pierce County's new emergency notification system to alert residents and businesses in the county for emergency and non-emergency mass notifications.

Don't miss out. Opt-in to **Pierce County ALERT** today! The easiest method is over the Internet. Access the Pierce County ALERT button at the bottom of the [Pierce County](#) home page and follow the instructions. For questions call 253.798.6595.

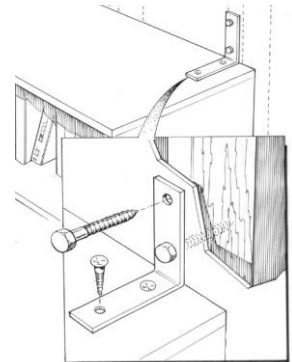
For updated information during an emergency, go to <http://blog.piercecountywa.org/emergency>

Make your home more resistant to earthquake damage by securing items in the home and knowing when and how to turn off your natural gas.



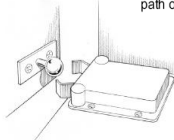
Picture hanging hooks that close help prevent pictures from falling off.

Secure tall furniture with L-braces secured to at least two wall studs.



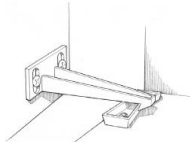
Kitchen Cabinets

The ground undulation and acceleration of an earthquake can cause cabinet doors to fly open and contents to spill onto the floor. Glass jars and dishes can shatter and cause injuries and damage. Heavy objects can fly across the room, injuring any in their path or damaging counter tops, floors, or walls.



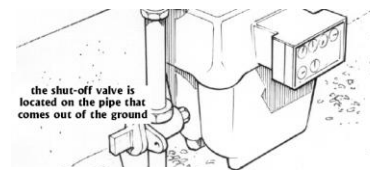
D. Push latch

- mounts inside cabinet
- opens by pushing gently inward on cabinet door



E. Child-proof latch

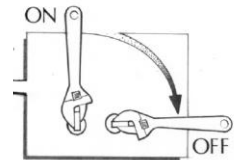
- inexpensive
- takes some getting used to - must reach inside cabinet to release latch



the shut-off valve is located on the pipe that comes out of the ground

Shutting off the gas after an earthquake:

- Shut off gas only if you smell it, hear a hissing sound and/or you see the meter dials spinning.
- If you smell gas, exit the house and move away from the building. Leave windows and doors open for ventilation and turn off the gas at the meter.



Fifty-one ways to use a trash bag in an emergency

1. Wear as a poncho
2. Keep feet dry
3. Keep items dry
4. Store waste when toilets aren't working
5. Use as a signal flag
6. Wear as a rain hat
7. Haul and store trash
8. Use for fly screen
9. Use as a ground cover
10. Use as an arm sling
11. Wear under clothing as an insulator
12. Melt snow
13. Use sections to mix food or drinks
14. Use as part of a solar water still
15. Tie ends and inflate for water life jacket
16. Wear as thermal boots
17. For food storage
18. Transport food
19. Inflate to use as a pillow
20. Stuff small portion to make a ball for recreation
21. Use as emergency water bag
22. Use as a sleeping bag cover
23. Use as a blanket in case of shock
24. Make covered or shade area
25. Use as a pressure bandage
26. Use as a body bag
27. Use as triangle bandage
28. Use to tie splint
29. Use as a restricting band
30. Use as catch basin for water
31. Use as patch for leaks
32. Tie several dark colored bags to trees or posts for privacy
33. A wind break
34. Emergency signal when placed on the ground and secured with a rock
35. Vomit bag
36. Make several smaller bags
37. Use for plates
38. Make a litter cover
39. Use as wind sock
40. Use as a trail marker
41. Use as a group flag
42. Use to separate dirty items from clean ones
43. Use several for a tent
44. Use for a back pack
45. Cover hands and arms as gloves
46. Mark toxic waste areas
47. For an ice bag for swelling and sprains
48. Cut in strips for splint ties
49. Use as blanket to maintain body heat
50. Use to identify unsafe buildings
51. Use it to line a bucket for an emergency toilet



The BUCKET LIST

Your 7-Day Emergency Kit

Disasters do happen and it is our personal responsibility to have a plan and be ready to respond quickly.

Plan for at least **seven days** worth of emergency water, food, and other items you might need during that time.

Place some of the essential items in a container such as a 5-gallon plastic bucket (with a lid) (or other containers such as a backpack) to quickly grab from your home or keep in your car if you need to quickly evacuate. Keep the rest in a convenient location in your home, garage, or shed.

Take a look at the list below and plan to pick up some of these items when you are out shopping.

Why a bucket, you might ask? Because it is sturdy, you can grab it quickly, use it as a stool, and in a pinch, line it with a plastic bag & use it as a portable toilet.



Items for your Grab-n-Go Bucket

- A flashlight & radio w/ extra batteries
- Extra water and non-perishable food (food and water for your pets, too)
- Small first aid kit
- Extra supply of medications
- Moist hand wipes & cleaners
- Toothbrush, tooth paste, soap, deodorant, brush, tissues & towel
- Toilet paper
- Special family needs (diapers, feminine hygiene items, etc.)
- Emergency poncho and blanket
- A local map
- Important family documents in a zip-lock plastic bag, including drivers license, bank & insurance information, out-of-area contact, paper and permanent marker
- Photos of family members and pets for re-unification
- Set of keys to your home and car
- Whistle for each family member
- Large plastic trash bags
- Multipurpose pocket knife
- Games and toys
- Change of clothes

Additional supplies for your 7-DAY emergency kit:

- Water—one gallon per person per day, stored in sturdy plastic containers such as soda-pop bottles, not milk cartons.
- Extra clothes, sturdy shoes and rain gear for each family member
- Non perishable food you like to eat. (for pets, too)
- Manual can opener and eating utensils
- First aid kit with handbook
- Hand sanitizers and wipes
- Toilet paper
- Backup supply of special equipment (i.e. hearing-aid batteries or oxygen tanks)
- Unscented bleach for water purification (8 drops/2liter bottle)
- Blankets and/or sleeping bags
- Plastic sheeting and duct tape to cover broken windows
- Tool kit: wrenches, crowbar, bungee cords, rope & heavy duty work gloves
- Large plastic trash bags
- Leash, crate, other pet supplies

Nice to have:

- Tents and/or tarps
- Cooking stove and fuel—do not use to cook inside
- Portable heater—do not use inside
- Generator (know how to use it)

Emergency supplies can be stored in containers such as:

- large plastic garbage can on wheels,
 - a tote, or other container
- and kept in a convenient location:**
- A shed or in back yard
 - A closet near an outside door

Also, for your car:

- Extra clothes, sturdy shoes, and warm hats and gloves
- Extra food and water
- Automobile emergency equipment such as jumper cables, flashlight, flares, and "HELP" signs
- Shovel and kitty litter or sand

*** Keep your tank at least ½ full at all times!**

For more information, visit www.piercecountywa.org/DEM or call 253-798-6595

or your local Emergency Management office