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September is National Preparedness Month and a great time to talk about earthquake safety with your family. Earthquakes are powerful reminders that being prepared for a natural disaster in Alaska is not just a good idea, but a necessity. Take some time to review the following safety tips so you're prepared when the next one hits.

## **DURING the Earthquake:**

STAY where you are, COVER your head and, if possible, HOLD on to something. If you're driving during an earthquake, pull over to the side of the road, stop, and stay in the car.



## **Natural Gas Safety AFTER the Earthquake:**

SMELL: An odorant called mercaptan is added to natural gas to make it smell like sulfur or rotten eggs. Check your appliances inside the home and outside at the meter for a natural gas odor.

**LOOK:** Inspect the gas appliances and piping inside your home as well as the piping at your meter for any damage. To help avoid fire danger or carbon monoxide buildup, make sure the furnace, boiler, and water heater vents are clear of debris that may have shifted during the earthquake.

**LISTEN:** Leaking natural gas makes a hissing sound as it leaves piping or appliances. Listen carefully for anything that sounds like escaping air.

**LEAVE:** If you suspect a gas leak, leave the premises immediately and call ENSTAR at: 1-844-SMELL GAS (1-844-763-5542).

EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS KIT CHECKLIST

| Natural disasters come in many forms - earthquakes, wildfires, or flooding to name a few. But one thing they all have in common is that they come quickly, and often times, without notice. Don't be caught unprepared for the next natural disaster, use this checklist to start your own at-home preparedness kit. |                           |         |
|--|---------------------------|---------|
| First Aid Kit  | Medications               | Matches |
| Water  | Extra Batteries           |         |
| Dust Masks   | Trash Bags & Zip Ties     |         |
| I ☐ Non-perishable Food  | Pet Food                  |         |
| Flashlight   | Paper Copies of Important |         |
| Cash   | Documents                 |         |
| Battery-powered Radio  | Extra Shoes               |         |
| I ☐ Antibacterial Hand Sanitizer   | Cell Phone Charger        |         |

# Back to School

# Common Natural Glas Terms & Definitions

# Bill Terms

**Customer Charge:** A fixed charge determined by the meter size (G1, G2, G3, or G4) on a gas account. The customer charge recovers a portion of the utility's costs such as meter-reading, record-keeping, billing, collections, and costs associated with service lines and meters.

**Service Charge (Base):** A volumetric charge that is determined by the meter size (G1, G2, G3, or G4) on a gas account. This charge recovers system maintenance costs.

**Regulatory Cost Charge (RCC):** The "Regulatory Cost Charge" is a volumetric charge provided by Alaska Statutes. This charge helps fund the RCA.

**Supplier Gas Cost Charge or Gas Cost Adjustment (GCA):** The "Supplier Gas Cost Charge" is a volumetric charge. It is also often referred to as a "pass-through" charge since you pay exactly what ENSTAR paid to Hilcorp and the other producers for the gas. This charge is approved by the RCA on an annual basis and is adjusted in July.

**Fixed Charge:** A fixed charge stays the same each month no matter how much gas you use.

**Volumetric Charge:** A volumetric charge varies each month depending on how much gas you use.

# Natural Gas Delivery Process

**Producer:** Any entity leasing, owning or controlling a supply of natural gas. ENSTAR currently buys gas from Hilcorp, Furie, Vision Resources, and Bluecrest.

**Transporter/Distributor:** A pipeline company or a local distributer, such as ENSTAR, which purchases natural gas from a producer.

## Gas Measurement Terms

**<u>CCF</u>**: A common natural gas volumetric measurement. 1 CCF = 100 cubic feet of natural gas

**MCF:** A common natural gas volumetric measurement. 1 MCF = 1,000 cubic feet of natural gas.

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