

Identify Other Sources of Water

If a disaster catches you without a stored supply of clean water, you can use the water in your pipes, water heater and ice cube trays. If you're not certain about the purity of the water, filter and disinfect as described in the "Purify Water for Drinking" section.

✓ To use the water in your pipes, let air into the plumbing by turning on the faucet in your home at the highest level. A small amount of water will trickle out. Then obtain water from the lowest faucet in the home.

✓ To use the water in your water heater, close the intake valve and cut off the heater's gas or electricity supply. Open the drain at the bottom of the tank and collect the water in a clean container. You may need to turn on a hot water faucet in the house to allow air into the tank to start the flow of water. Be sure to refill the tank before turning the gas or electricity back on.

✓ Consider using water from the toilet tank or perhaps a pool or other outdoor water source for washing and cleaning purposes.

Learn More

For emergency preparedness information and training opportunities, visit:

- ✓ Ready Marin: readymarin.org
- ✓ CERT (Community Emergency Response Team): readymarin.org/cert
- ✓ Ready America: ready.gov
- ✓ American Red Cross: redcross.org

Purify Water for Drinking

In an emergency, it's possible available water sources may require additional treatment to be safe to drink.

✓ If water is cloudy, filter through clean cloth or paper towels before disinfecting.

✓ Disinfect water by bringing it to a rolling boil for one full minute.



✓ If you are not able to boil water, add regular household bleach (5.25% sodium hypochlorite; do not use scented, "ultra" or "color safe"). Use 8 drops per gallon for clear water or 16 drops for cloudy. Mix thoroughly and let stand for 30 minutes. A slight chlorine odor should be detectable. If not, repeat the dosage and let stand an additional 15 minutes. The potency of bleach diminishes with time, so keep a sealed bottle and an eyedropper with your emergency kit.



UPDATE: What to know about water during a PG&E Public Safety Power Shutoff

 **Store Water**





Got Water?

At MMWD, we've invested heavily in equipment, facility upgrades and employee training to ensure our water is available when needed most. There are also some simple steps you can take on your end to be ready in an emergency.

What to Know About Water During a PG&E Public Safety Power Shutoff

This wildfire season, PG&E may shutoff power for public safety when extreme fire conditions are forecasted. All Californians should prepare for a Public Safety Power Shutoff (PSPS), much as you would for any other emergency. For more information, visit: pge.com/wildfiresafety

If there is a PSPS event in Marin, MMWD asks all customers to suspend irrigation and restrict water use to indoors only for the duration of the power shutoff. We rely on electric power to treat and distribute water. During a PSPS event, we will make every effort to provide continuous water service. By curtailing water use during a shutoff, you can help ensure more water is available for essential uses such as firefighting.



✓ Store an emergency supply of water as part of your preparations for a PG&E Public Safety Power Shutoff.



✗ During a Public Safety Power Shutoff, suspend irrigation to help conserve water for essential uses.

Store an Emergency Supply

One of the easiest yet most essential steps you can take to prepare for an earthquake or other disaster is to set aside an emergency water supply.

✓ Store a five-to-seven day supply of water for each person in your household. Plan for one gallon per person per day, for drinking and sanitation. Store extra water for pets and family members with special needs.

✓ Tap water from MMWD can be safely stored in well-sanitized, food-grade containers such as plastic soda bottles. Avoid used milk jugs and containers that will decompose or break. Seal tightly, then label and store in an easily accessible, dark, cool, dry area away from solvents and chemicals. Replace every six months.

✓ Don't forget your other emergency supplies and necessities. Get a complete list at: [ready.gov](https://www.ready.gov)



Know How to Turn Off Your Water

In the event of an earthquake or unexpected winter freeze, you may need to turn off your water to prevent damage to your property from broken pipes.

✓ Prepare in advance by locating the water main leading into your house and attaching a label to it for quick identification (so you can find it even in the dark). Turn *clockwise* to shut off.

✓ If you can't turn off the water at the main leading into your house, shut off the water at the main meter (usually by the street), which controls the water flow to the entire property. To shut off, *turn valve arrow toward the street.*



✓ If you can't turn off the water yourself, call MMWD's emergency line at 415-945-1500 and we will send someone to turn it off for you.