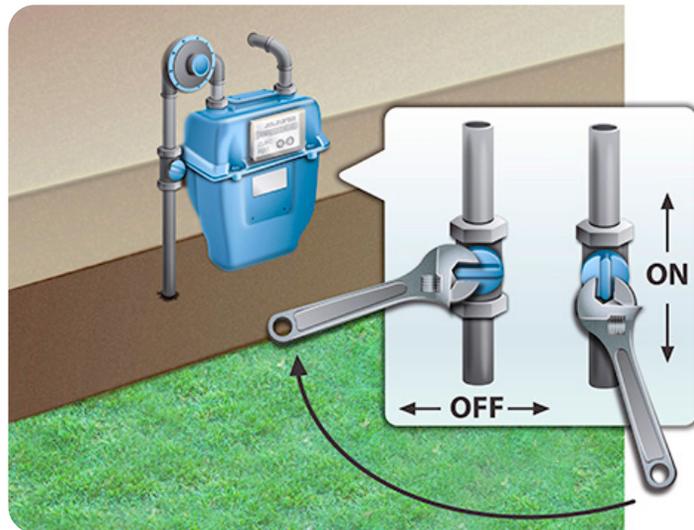


From the Public Safety & Emergency Preparedness Committee:

How to shut off your gas in an emergency



If a natural disaster occurs in La Habra Heights—such as an earthquake or wildfire—it may be necessary for you to shut off your natural gas supply to avoid worsening the situation. Here’s how to do that:

- Locate your gas meter *before* an emergency occurs and have the necessary tool readily available.
- As you face the meter, you’ll see a pipe running from the ground to the meter. There is a shutoff valve running parallel with the pipe, usually located about six to eight inches above the ground. Using a 12-inch or larger adjustable wrench, turn the valve a quarter-turn in either direction until the valve is crosswise to the pipe. Gas flow is now shut off.

For safety reasons, it is recommended that you use a “non-sparking” wrench. However, please note that so-called “non-sparking” tools are still capable of producing sparks—a more accurate description would be “reduced-sparking” tools.

Once you have shut off the natural gas at the meter, *do not try to turn it back on yourself*. After the natural gas service shutoff valve has been closed in an emergency, SoCalGas or another qualified professional should perform a safety inspection before natural gas service is restored and appliance pilots are relit. SoCalGas will perform this service at no cost to you; just call their customer service number: **909-307-7070**.

If you attach your wrench to the gas meter and leave it there for quick access, keep in mind that long-term exposure to weather and water sprinklers can damage or impair the tool. Even a reduced-sparking wrench must be kept free of rust or other contaminants that may hamper its reduced-sparking properties or make it difficult to use.

Note: The LHH Public Safety & Emergency Preparedness Committee is now seeking members. If you are interested in becoming part of the committee or if you have questions, please contact Chairperson John Pespisa at **562-694-1371**.