

What you should do to prepare for emergencies

connected · · · · to your safety



When disasters strike, first responders and the community come together to save lives and protect property. In our region, we are facing the fourth year of drought conditions and need to be extra diligent about wildfire prevention and awareness. Preparing for unexpected events is your first step in protecting your family, home and property—and potentially saving lives.



A message from the President of the San Diego County Fire Chiefs

The San Diego County Fire Chiefs' Association, the American Red Cross, the Burn Institute and San Diego County's Office of Emergency Services partner to provide you resources and information to get you prepared for fires whenever they may occur.

It's not a question of if, but when the next major wildfire will arise.

As you know, the state of California is experiencing extreme drought conditions. These drought conditions raise the potential for devastating fires in the San Diego region and throughout California.

Wildfires start in many ways and there are contributing factors that can make the situation go from bad to worse very quickly.

Sometimes wildfires can start by natural causes, though most fires are caused by humans. By exercising care around lit cigarettes, campfires and engine sparks, you can help to prevent them. And if you see any suspicious activity that could involve arson, call 911 to report the situation. It could save lives.

The San Diego County Fire Chiefs' Association also advises residents to familiarize themselves with the "Ready Set Go!" program. This program works collaboratively with other public education efforts to promote fire safety. You can learn more at sandiego.gov/fire/pdf/rsqsandiego.pdf

Please review the information in this brochure and then take the action steps outlined here to prepare you, your loved ones and your property for this year's fire season.

Don Butz President of the San Diego County Fire Chiefs' Association

> San Diego County Fire Chiefs' Association



Community safety

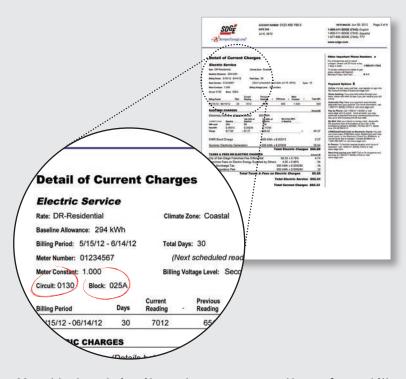
Working together to prepare for emergencies

To help you get ready for an emergency like a wildfire or earthquake, SDG&E® works with other agencies and organizations to offer county residents and businesses detailed information about emergency preparedness and safety.

Since you never know when an emergency may occur, be ready by taking these steps:

- 1. PREPARE: Have an emergency supply kit, and make a personal emergency plan for your family and be prepared to activate it.
- **2. PROTECT:** Create a defensible space around your home.
- **3. KNOW:** Know what to do in an emergency and where to find more information.

To stay informed during a power outage, visit **sdge.com/weatheroutage**. You'll need your **block number** and **circuit number**. Find them by using the tool on our weather outage page or see your SDG&E bill.



Your block and circuit number are on page three of your bill.

Protecting our communities

Extreme drought, warmer weather and drier vegetation are contributing to what federal, state and local officials say could be California's worst fire season ever. Our year-round efforts to be prepared for wildfires are focused on protecting people, property and power lines. As part of our **Community Fire Safety Program** – we:

- Collaborate closely with incident commanders and first responders for coordinated responses to emergencies, now aided by the Next Generation Incident Command System for access to real-time disaster response information.
- Help support public safety groups, such as volunteer fire stations, the San Diego County Fire Chiefs' Association, American Red Cross, The Burn Institute and the San Diego County Office of Emergency Services.
- Monitor hazardous weather conditions with 170 weather stations to track constantly changing conditions that may affect operational decisions.

- Tap the expertise of our meteorologists on staff who have developed tools to better predict fire risk.
- Increased total wood-to-steel pole replacements to 7,400 for electric lines in fire-prone areas.
- Equipped our mobile emergency command centers and new satellite communication systems with the latest technology in field command communication.
- Extended agreements for our heli-tanker to help fight wildfires and keep up to eight fire engines and crews on standby.
- Maintain 462,000 trees to keep them clear of power lines throughout our 4,100-square-mile service area.

Stay informed to stay safe

Weather conditions

During rare conditions that could indicate imminent fire danger, we may temporarily shut off power to certain areas. This temporary safety precaution is meant to protect you and the environment and to keep our system reliable.



You can monitor conditions from SDG&E's 170 weather stations at **sdge.com/weatheroutage**.

SD Emergency and SDG&E: the must-have apps to be prepared

The SD Emergency App will keep you and your family informed with emergency updates, interactive emergency maps, and shelter locations. Download at *readysandiego.org*.

You can also download our smart phone app at **sdge.com/mobileapps** to stay informed about outages when you're not home.



The SDG&E app is available for iOS and Android.





1 Prepare

an emergency supply kit

When fire threatens, you won't have time to shop or search for supplies, so have an emergency supply kit assembled that includes items you may need at home or if you have to evacuate. Store them in easy-to-carry containers such as backpacks or plastic crates.

Learn the basics in our video, "Emergency Preparedness: Make a Kit and a Plan," at **sdge.com/beprepared**.

WATER

A three-day water supply (one gallon per person per day is recommended)

FOOD

A three-day food supply that won't spoil and a can opener/bottle opener

RADIO

Battery-powered radio and extra batteries

CLOTHES

One change of clothing and shoes per person

BLANKET

One blanket or sleeping bag per person

FIRST-AID

A first-aid kit that includes family prescriptions

GLASSES

Eyeglasses and sunglasses

KEYS

Extra set of car keys

TOILETRIES

Basic toiletries for the entire family

FLASHLIGHT

Flashlight and extra batteries

SPECIFIC ITEMS

Specific items for infants, elderly or disabled family members

PET NEEDS

Pet food, water, carrier and leash

Plan for safety with tips, videos and checklists at sdge.com/emergency

2 Protect

property and be prepared

Create a defensible space

In a wildfire, firefighters are stretched to the limit. By designing or modifying the space around your home to resist wildfire, you have a better chance of saving your property—whether or not firefighters can get to it in time.

There are three zones around your house to consider:

ZONE 1: From the structure out to a minimum of 30-50 ft.

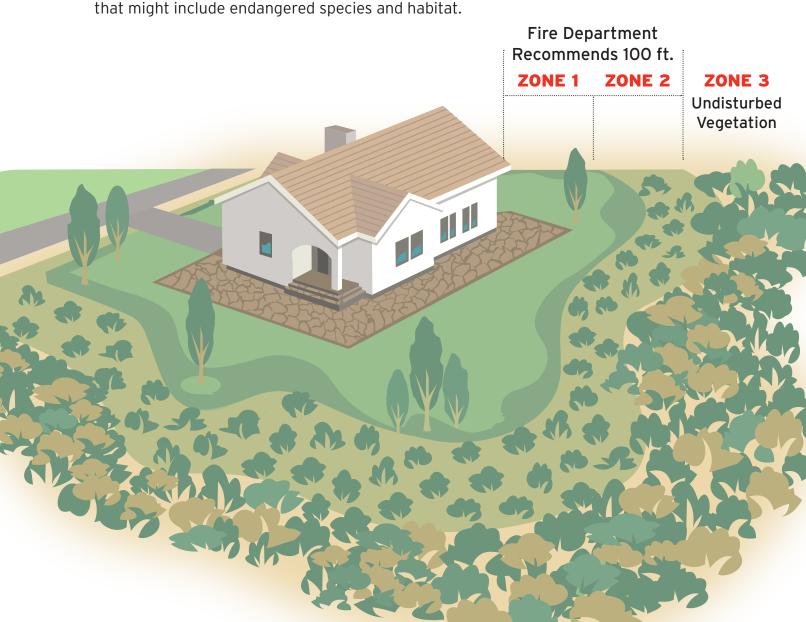
The area nearest your home should contain low-growing plants with low fuel volume.

ZONE 2: A minimum of 30-100 ft. from structure

Low-growing ground covers that are resistant to fire and low in fuel volume are recommended in this zone.

ZONE 3: Beyond 100 ft. from structure

Check with environmental regulatory agencies before modifying native vegetation that might include endangered species and habitat.



3 Know

what to do and where to find info

The basics of natural gas and electric safety

You could experience power outages or natural gas leaks for any number of reasons, ranging from fires and earthquakes to the need for law enforcement to protect public safety. Here's how to respond:

If a person or piece of equipment comes in contact with an electric line, or if a line is down or broken, then take the following steps. SHUT OFF the power, if possible. DON'T touch the person or any equipment involved. The line may still be energized and dangerous.

Call 911 and SDG&E.

If you smell a natural gas odor, hear the hissing sound of gas escaping, or see other signs of a leak, then take the following steps. REMAIN calm. DON'T light a match, candle or cigarette. DON'T turn electrical appliances or lights on or off.

Call SDG&E or 911.

If you ever have a safety concern or emergency involving natural gas or electricity, call SDG&E at **1-800-611-7343**, 24 hours a day, seven days a week; or call **911**.

Disaster information

Police, Fire & Medical Emergencies

1-800-611-7343

SDG&E > Report an outage, downed or damaged power lines or suspected gas leaks. Find gas and electric safety information. **sdge.com/safety**

1-858-565-3490

Ready San Diego > Office of Emergency Services. Sign up for reverse 911 to be notified if there's an emergency that will affect you. Be prepared for an emergency and stay informed. readysandiego.org 211

211 Hotline > During a disaster, 211 works with the Office of Emergency Services as a communications point for many agencies. With a database of over 3,000 resources, a live operator can help you find what you need in your location.

Connect with us at **sdge.com** and on social media:



Twitter.com/sdge **Facebook.**com/SanDiegoGasandElectric **Pinterest.**com/sdge **Instagram.**com/sdge

YouTube.com/SDGEWebmaster

Training for first responders helps raise awareness to save lives



GEARED UP FOR SAFETY: Mike Rottenberg conducts a recent energy safety training session for first responders at an SDG&E electric substation. Before joining SDG&E as a fire coordinator in 2011, he served as fire chief of the City of Santee.

In the midst of a fire, earthquake or other emergency, energy safety is serious business, yet the dangers aren't always obvious. To help raise awareness

and save lives, SDG&E fire coordinators conduct yearround gas and electric safety training designed specifically for firefighters, police officers and other first responders.

"We train first responders to be aware of the dangers of incidents that involve or could involve gas and electric facilities," explained Mike Rottenberg, one of SDG&E's four fire coordinators, along with Randy Lyle, Bill Molumby and manager Hal Mortier. "Even when responding to an incident as common firefighters need to be aware that the car could be energized. They also need to treat all wires as energized until SDG&E confirms

that it's safe to proceed."

During a wildfire, an SDG&E fire coordinator often serves as the single point of contact representing the utility to the incident commander, who marshals the resources of multiple agencies on the scene. The fire coordinators – each with more than 30 years of

professional fire service experience – also train SDG&E field crews in fire prevention and response, and participate in local, state and border fire safety groups.

as a vehicle versus a power pole, police and

able to share practical, important and potentially life-saving information with first responders my brothers and sisters in fire and police service."

"I feel fortunate to be

Mike Rottenberg SDG&E Fire Coordinator SPONSORED BY:



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Preparación para emergencias: Lo que debe saber

Para pedir una copia de esta información en español, favor de llamar al **1-800-311-7343**.

Preparing for emergencies for seniors and those with a disability

A little extra preparation for the special needs of seniors and those with a disability can go a long way if a disaster happens. Have a plan for transportation if someone in your home has a mobility issue and/or a need for electricity. And, depending on your needs on a daily basis, here are some things to consider:

| Medical equipment (and batteries and chargers) and supplies |
|---|
|] Prescriptions |
| List of medical, pharmacy and medical device and supply providers, including phone numbers |
| Copies of prescriptions, doctors' orders and serial numbers of medical devices |
| Extra eyeglasses and hearing aids |
| Medical alert tags or bracelets or written description of your disability and/or needs if you're unable to describe the situation in an emergency |
| Assistive technology and/or communication tools |
| Accessible housing |
| A service animal |
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