

## Earthquakes: We're Prepared. Are You?

In just the last week, California has experienced two of the five largest earthquakes that have rattled the state since 1994. Both quakes shook Southern California, and Friday's 7.1-magnitude earthquake was felt as far away as the Capitol in Sacramento.

The above-ground damage caused by earthquakes often grabs the headlines, but major earthquakes can also do serious damage to utilities that lie beneath the ground.

Immediately following the recent quakes, Liberty Utilities dispatched crews to assess the local water system infrastructure. Our operators worked tirelessly throughout the evening and into the night to inspect each of our well sites, pump stations and other essential infrastructure for damage. After thorough inspection of our system, we are pleased to report that our infrastructure was not impacted by the seismic events.

Earthquakes don't come with warnings, but customers can rest assured knowing that Liberty Utilities is continually maintaining and improving our local infrastructure to limit any vulnerability to damage during an earthquake or other natural disaster.

Here's what you can do to prepare for an earthquake:

- **Ensure your contact information is up-to-date with Liberty Utilities**, so we can contact you during an emergency. Please call our office at 760-247-6484 to update your phone number and email address if necessary.
- **Build or purchase an emergency kit.** It helps to have the essentials within reach in case you suffer an injury or experience an outage.
- **Learn the community's evacuation routes and shelter locations.** Time is essential during an emergency, it will serve you well to know the details ahead of time.
- **Participate in the Great California Shakeout**, an annual drill in which participants practice what to do during an earthquake as well as review and update their emergency preparedness plan, on Thursday, October 17. Register at <http://ShakeOut.org>

Preparation is key in any disaster scenario, especially during an earthquake. That's why Liberty Utilities encourages all customers to develop a disaster plan with your family – it may save your life. Please visit [Ready.gov](http://Ready.gov) or the [American Red Cross](http://AmericanRedCross.org) for tips on how to make a disaster plan that fits your family's needs.

Sincerely,

Tony Penna

Vice President and General Manager of Liberty Utilities Apple Valley