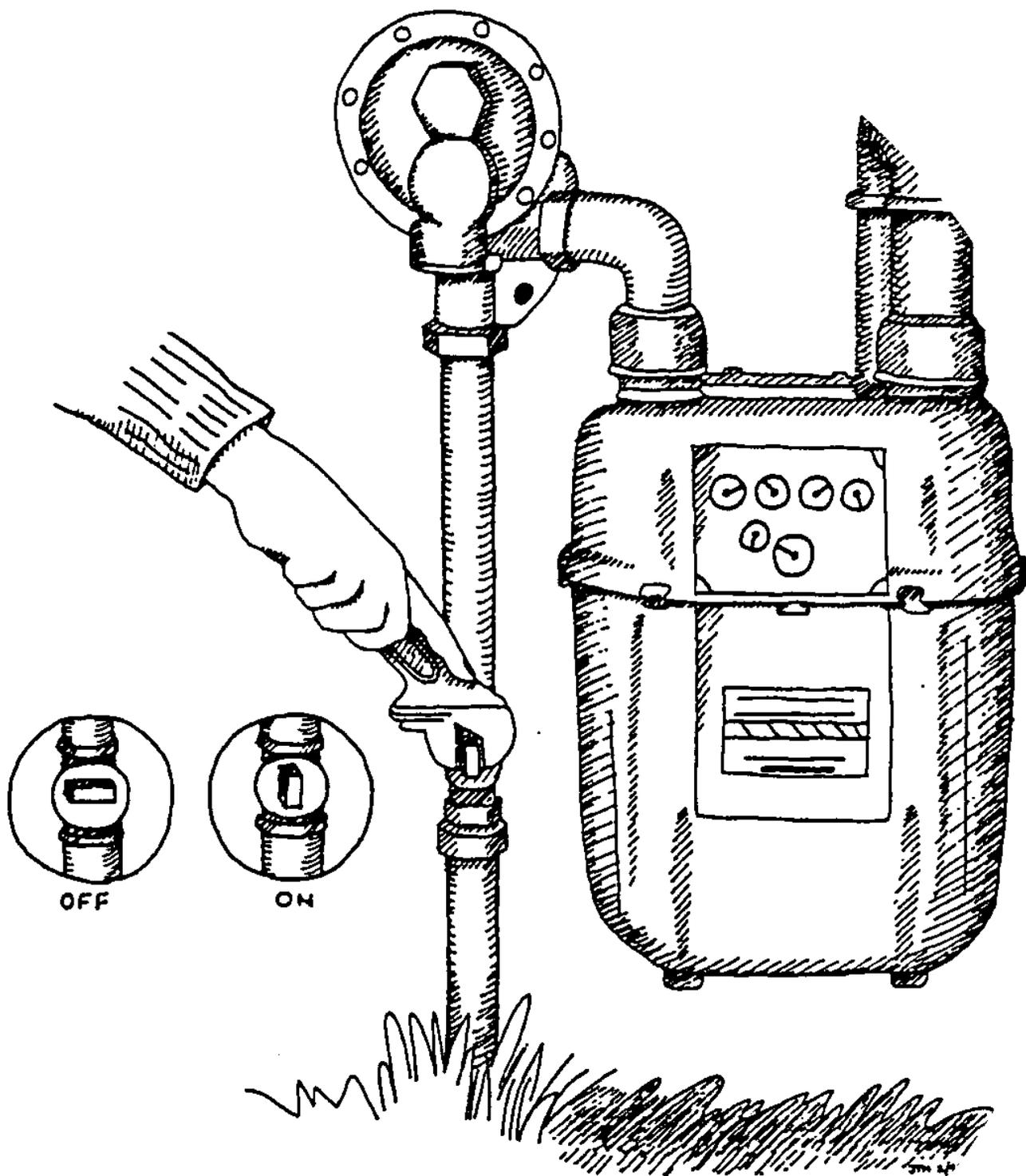


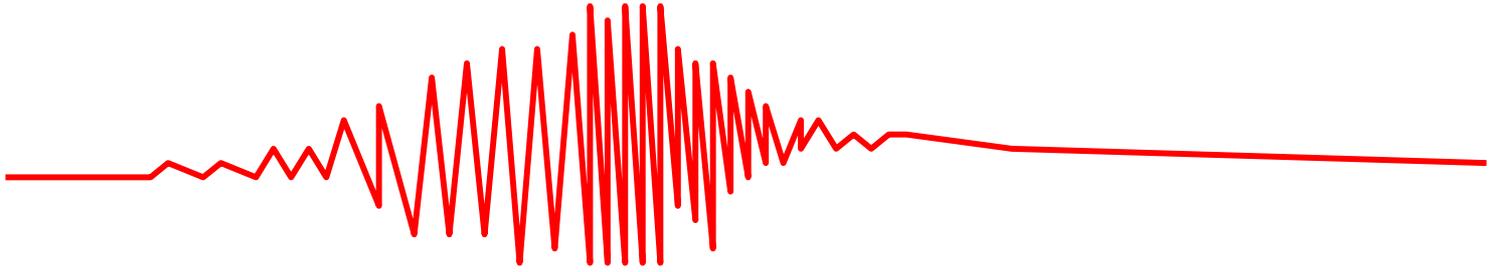
Natural Gas: How and when to turn it off*.

* Never turn natural gas back on yourself.



The shut-off valve is located on the pipe that comes out of the ground.

Do I shut off my natural gas after an earthquake?



- ▣ Shut off the gas immediately **only if** you suspect the line may have been broken or ruptured,- smell the characteristic warning odor of gas, and/or you notice a large consumption of gas being registered on the gas meter.
- ▣ Never use matches, open flame appliances or operate any electrical switches until you are sure no gas leaks exist. Even sparks from electrical switches could ignite the gas, causing an explosion.
- ▣ If you smell natural gas, immediately get everyone out of and away from the house. Open windows and doors to provide ventilation. Shut off the gas at the meter.

About Natural Gas



Natural gas leaks and explosions are responsible for a significant number of fires following any major earthquake. It is vital that all household members know how to shut the natural gas off.

- ▣ Locate the shut-off valve (see illustration). Make sure the valve will turn. If it has not been exercised in several years, it may be rusted or stuck in the open position. Simply rock the valve back and forth just a few degrees - nowhere near the 90 degree or off position. It only takes 1/4 turn (90 degrees) in either direction to shut it off, so be careful. Moving it about 1/8 of a turn is all that is needed to assure yourself that it can turn.
- ▣ **CAUTION:** If you accidentally turn the gas off while practicing, you **must** call a qualified gas representative to come and turn it on for you. Turning it on yourself will create a gas leak in your home.
- ▣ Consider locating an adjustable wrench near the meter or on the wall behind the meter. At a minimum, have one readily accessible so that you waste no time getting it when you need it.



For more information:

Benton County Sheriff's Office
Emergency Management Division
180 NW 5th Street, Corvallis, OR 97330
541.766-6864, 541.766-6052 fax

Or contact your local natural gas company:

Northwest Natural
1907 14 Avenue SE, Albany, OR 97321
541.926-4253
Gas Odor Emergencies, 800.882-3377