Step 7
WHEN SAFE, CONTINUE TO FOLLOW YOUR DISASTER PREPAREDNESS PLAN

DON’T HEAD TOWARDS THE COAST IF YOU HAVE HEARD THAT A TSUNAMI WARNING HAS BEEN ISSUED. You will put yourself in danger and make it more difficult for the people who need to evacuate.

Tsunamis

• Stay away from the coast until officials permit you to return.

Earthquakes

• If your home isn’t damaged, you are safest there even if the power is off.
• Do not use open flames—candles, matches or lighters—until you are sure there are no gas leaks.
• Never use a camp stove, charcoal grill or gas generator indoors.

Be in communication

• Use your portable, car, or NOAA Weather Radio for information. Scan channels to find one that is on the air.
• Call your out-of-area contact and tell them your status, THEN STAY OFF THE TELEPHONE.
• Check on your neighbors.

If you cannot stay in your home...

• Use your radio to get information on shelter locations in your community.
• Find out what you are allowed to bring to the shelter—space is limited.

The first weeks after the earthquake

• Make sure your home is safe to occupy.
• If the gas was turned off, arrange for the gas company to inspect your lines and turn it back on.
• Have a professional inspect your fireplace or wood stove before use.
• Locate and/or replace any critical documents.
• Inventory and take pictures of any damage and contact your insurance agent to begin the claims process.

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