

PLANNED WATER SHUTOFF: HOW TO GET READY



ACWD is making improvements to strengthen and modernize our water system so we can continue providing reliable service, even during earthquakes. At times, this work may require temporary water shutoffs, but we'll notify customers ahead of time. In emergencies, work may need to begin right away. Taking these steps now helps prevent unexpected breaks, reduce the chance of longer outages, and protect our community's water supply.



Store Water Ahead of Time

- Fill pitchers, bottles or jugs for drinking and cooking.
- Store drinking water in sealed containers.
- Fill bathtub(s) or large buckets to use for manual toilet flushing.
- If you rely on medical or health devices that require water, ensure you have an adequate supply available.



Prepare for Restroom Use

- Pre-flush toilets.
- Keep a bucket or container handy for manual flushing.
 - Quickly pour 1.2 gallons of water directly into the toilet bowl from a height of 1-2 feet.
 - The force of the water should create a siphon and flush the toilet.

Additional Tips to Prepare for a Water Shutoff



Kitchen and Cooking

- Wash dishes before the shutoff.
- Cook meals ahead of time to minimize dish washing.
- Fill a dish tub, large pot or bowl with water for rinsing utensils.



Personal Hygiene

- Shower or bathe beforehand.
- Fill a cup or bottle for brushing teeth.
- Have hand sanitizer or wet wipes ready for hand cleaning.
- Consider using disposable wipes (avoid flushing).



Laundry and Appliances

- Finish laundry or dishwasher cycles early.
- Turn off appliances that use water:
 - Ice machines
 - Irrigation systems
 - Automatic fillers (fountains, bird baths, etc.)



During the Shutoff

- Keep faucets OFF to avoid sputtering when water returns.



When Service is Restored

- Run cold water at an outdoor faucet for a few minutes to clear air or discolored water in lines. If you do not have an outdoor faucet, run the cold water faucets throughout the house starting with the bathtub.
- Avoid using hot water immediately until cold water runs clear.



Extra Tips

- Fill water bowls for pets in advance.
- Plan to use water sparingly until service is restored.
- For more guidance on addressing discolored water, visit [acwd.org/discoloredwater](https://www.acwd.org/discoloredwater).