



# Post-Earthquake Information

## Where to get help after an earthquake

If you live in Portland, the city has planned to set up Basic Emergency Earthquake Communication Nodes (BEECNs) around the city for emergency assistance and information within 24-48 hours. A complete list of the nodes and a map of their locations is included with your kit. Caches of equipment and materials have been created near each location.

Portland also has Neighborhood Emergency Teams (NET) comprised of volunteers who will be in contact with authorities by 2-way radio. You should expect these volunteers to be out helping people; however, they have a strict protocol to follow and cannot be expected to depart from it. If you or someone you know is seriously injured, they may be able to direct someone to you who can provide aid.

While local hospitals will be in use, do not expect 911 services or ambulances to be able to provide help immediately after a major earthquake. You will most likely have to get to the hospital on your own. Note that hospitals will be swamped with cases and will also have strict triage protocols to follow. If you have a serious injury that you believe requires immediate attention, please consider that you will be attended to based on the seriousness of your injury and may be forced to wait for a long period of time, outside, and under uncomfortable and unhygienic conditions. The quality of your care and your risk of infection may be substantially lower if you stay at home with friends or family.

## Dealing with waste water

Sewers will need to be repaired after an earthquake, which could take many months. **During this time you will not be able to dump any liquids down any of your drains, including storm drains.** Waste water generated from washing activities should be poured onto the ground and allowed to filter back into the soil. Unfortunately, if you pour soapy water repeatedly onto the same place, over time an oily residue will be created that seals the earth and you will be left with a puddle of gray water. Gray water smells and produces unhealthy bacteria, presenting public health concerns if enough is produced.

If the amount of waste water you generate is small, as it is likely to be, you can distribute it over various different areas and plants so that it doesn't generate problems. If water can be easily replenished but sewer systems are still inoperable, the amount of waste water you have may be too much to distribute directly onto the ground. In this case, we recommend digging a sump pit for disposing waste water and covering it with loose organic material such as grass, leaves, wood chips, etc. This material and the top few inches of earth underneath it may have to be periodically removed, bagged, disposed of, and replaced to ensure that water filters into the ground properly.

## Draining water from your water heater

To safely drain drinkable water out of your water heater, follow the instructions below:

1. Close cold water intake valve to prevent water from entering the heater from outside the house.
2. Close the gas shut-off valve. If you have an electric heater, flip the appropriate breaker switch.
3. Open pressure relief valve to allow air into the heater (or turn on your hot water tap).
4. Attach the water hose from your kit to the drain valve and run it into a container.
5. Carefully open drain valve. Water may be hot.



Pressure relief valve

Water intake valve

Metal strapping for securing water heater to wall

Drain valve

Gas shut-off valve

If your water heater has fallen over, it will probably be too heavy to move. As with the instructions above, ensure that the gas and water intake is off if still connected. Locate the drain and attempt to connect your drinking water hose, and then open the relief valve and try to drain it in place. As water comes out, the heater will become lighter and easier to roll or move.

# Converting your stove to propane

If you do not have a camp stove but have propane for a grill or heater, you may be able to convert your stove to take propane. Premier Electric Gas & Ranges provides this helpful information on their website at: <https://www.premierrange.com/faq-rangeconversion.php>. It is recommended that you have at least one standard propane tank for cooking. Additionally, you may wish to consider purchasing an inexpensive gas heater in the event of an earthquake during the winter.

**Disclaimer:** If you are not comfortable making these adjustments, we recommend asking one of your neighbors with more relevant technical experience. The following instructions may not apply to your range, and any adjustments you make are under your own liability.

## Range Conversion

### NATURAL GAS TO LP (PROPANE) GAS

**WARNING:** To avoid the risk of serious personal injury or property damage, the range must be converted correctly. Improper conversion or flame adjustment will produce carbon monoxide, which is a poisonous gas.

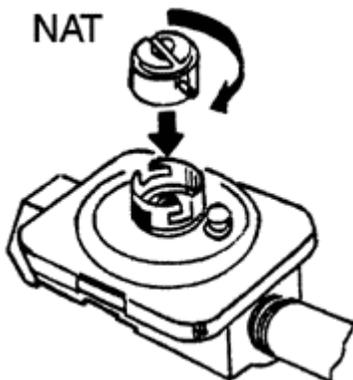
You may also want to watch our [Range Conversion Tutorial Video's](#) to aid you in your conversion.

To convert your range, follow the directions below:

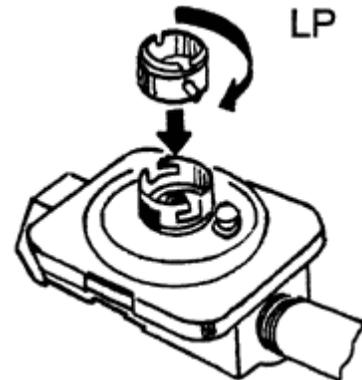
1. Check that the main gas supply has been shut off and the power supply cord is disconnected.
2. Remove main top.
3. Convert pressure regulator. Your range is equipped with a convertible pressure regulator. To convert, follow the illustrations below for the type of regulator on your range.

#### Regulator A:

- A. Use a coin to remove the cap from the pressure regulator
- B. Turn the cap over, engage it in the slots and tighten cap. LP should be visible on the cap.



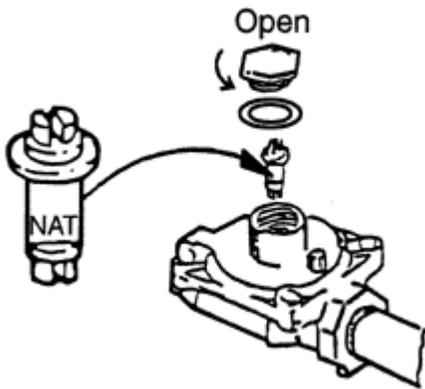
NOTE: The type of gas you are converting to must be visible on the cap.



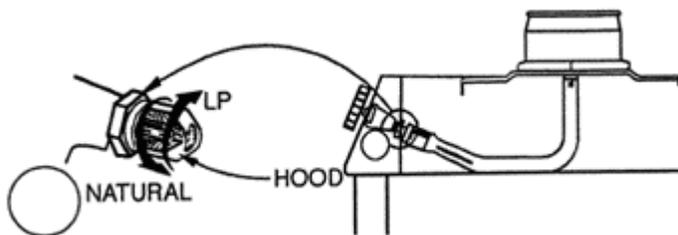
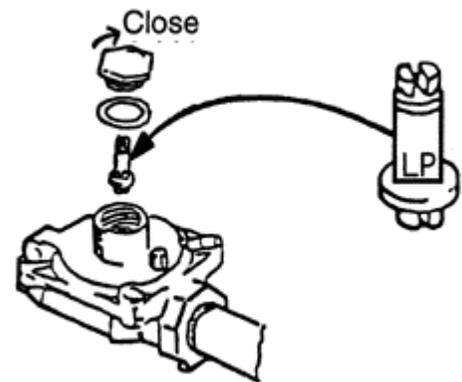
#### Regulator B

- A. Remove cap and snap out plastic plunger from bottom of cap.
- B. Turn plunger over and snap back in original location.

C. Re-insert the cap assembly into the regulator and tighten.

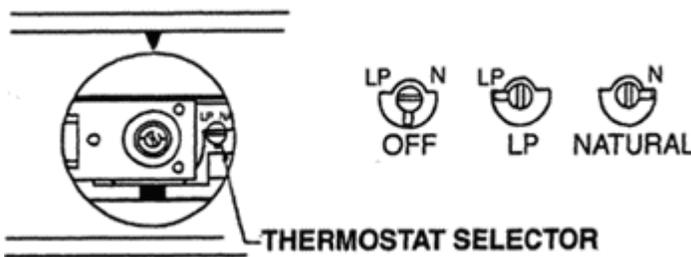


NOTE: Plunger must snap into position; the gas you are converting to must be visible on lower side of plunger.

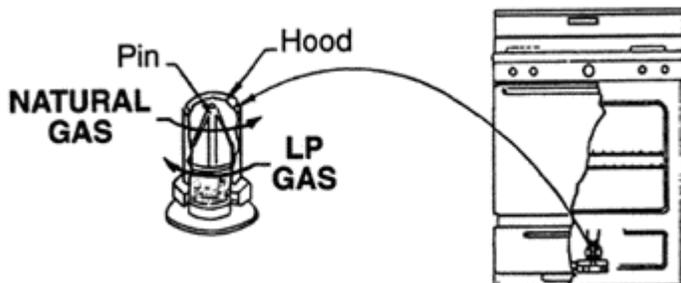


**4. TOP BURNER:** Turn top burner valve orifice hood for each burner down until snug against pin for LP (Propane) setting. Facing the range, using a 1/2" wrench, turn orifice hoods counter-clockwise.

NOTE: Do not over-tighten!



**5. OVEN THERMOSTAT:** The oven pilot is converted from Natural to LP (Propane) using the pilot control screw located behind the thermostat knob. To convert, remove thermostat knob, turn the thermostat control screw from the natural setting to "LP" or "LPG" setting by rotating fully clockwise to the stop. Turn fully counter-clockwise toward "N" or "NAT" for natural gas. Replace thermostat knob.



**6. OVEN BURNER:**

**A.** Remove oven bottom, broiler drawer, oven bottom and burner baffle plate that is mounted on top of the oven burner and secured by a wing nut. The burner orifice hood is located on the oven burner safety valve at the center bottom of the range.

**B.** To convert to LP (Propane) use a 1/2" wrench to turn the safety valve orifice hood clockwise until it is snug.

NOTE: Do not over-tighten!

**7. CHECK OPERATION:**

**A.** After the above conversion has been completed, turn on the gas and plug the power supply cord into a grounded outlet. Check operation of cooktop and oven burner. See **Adjust Air Shutters** to set proper flame adjustment. See **Lighting Range Pilots** to re-adjust the pilots for LP (Propane) gas.

**B.** Carefully replace oven burner baffle, oven bottom, broiler drawer, oven door and main top.