



Suggested Earthquake Safety Rules:

During an Earthquake:

Stay calm.

Stay inside and take cover under a heavy table, desk or bench, etc. or in an interior corner of a room. Stay away from windows and objects that may fall on you.

Do not leave the building until the tremors stop. Then, exit calmly (never use the elevator.) Gather at the assembly point.

Once outdoors, move away from buildings, trees and utility poles. Stay in open areas.

If safe to do so, shut off electric, gas and water service to your house. Be alert for downed live power lines.

Be alert for fire; extinguish fires if possible. Gather fire extinguishers, water buckets and other fire fighting equipment. Organize a Fire Watch with your neighbors.

If in a car, stop as quickly as safety permits and stay in the car. Seek an open space after the shaking stops. Be cautious of downed power lines.

Be alert for additional shaking and damage caused by aftershocks that may come hours, days or weeks later.

Call your relatives, especially your out-of-town children. Tell them how you are and where you are. They may worry about you if they cannot find you. Also, check on your neighbors! See if they are okay.

If your power goes out, more than likely, Huntsville Utilities already knows. If you call Huntsville Utilities to report power outages, please do so only once. Multiple requests do not speed up the process. They work as fast as they can.

If you have a true medical emergency, call 911. To inquire about available non emergency community resources, dial 211.

Do not call 911 unless you have a true emergency. Do not call them for general information such as road closing information, for transportation, or to ask which stores are opened. Tune into local television stations or local radio stations for information. The Emergency Management Agency distributes emergency public information to the media as soon as possible.

Do not drive on icy or treacherous roads. While 4-wheel drive vehicles may enable you to drive in all terrains, our major concern is your ability to stop! During hazardous or icy driving conditions, our police officers are terribly overwhelmed, and it may take several hours or more for them to come to your assistance.

Please do not call public works to clear your street. They have a specific plan in place for road clearing. They clear roads around hospitals first, so that emergency medical crews can deliver persons with life-threatening emergencies, then major roads, and then minor roads.