

# Alerts and Notifications

Santa Clara County uses a variety of notification systems to alert you of emergency situations. Make sure you are alerted in the event of a local disaster or an emergency, so that you are best able to protect yourself and your loved ones. Understand the purpose of each system and sign up if it's appropriate for you.

Depending on the situation, you may receive updates from multiple sources, including local, county, regional, and national alert systems. Some of these systems you will need to sign up for, others will automatically be sent to everyone. Read below to learn about each alert and how to enroll.

## Alert SCC - Santa Clara County Opt-In County Alerts



Alert SCC is Santa Clara County's official emergency alert and warning system. Alerts are sent via text, voice, and email. Alerts will be sent from local agencies if you need to take action, such as evacuating. You must register online to receive alerts and you can include multiple phone numbers and locations in Santa Clara County. Alerts may include:

- Wildfire and evacuation information with life safety implications
- Information *during* an event about evacuation routes, shelters, and transportation
- Other public safety incidents where lives may be at risk

**SIGN UP** online at: [AlertSCC.com](https://AlertSCC.com)

## Nixle – City Alerts Opt-in City Text Alerts



Nixle is a free notification system used by some police, fire, and local government agencies to report road closures and emergencies. You receive alerts via text, based on the zip code(s) you sign up for. Alerts may include:

- Public safety warnings
- Road closures
- Police activity and missing persons
- Post-disaster information about shelters, transportation, or supplies

**SIGN UP:** Check if your city uses Nixle or another emergency alert system. They should provide sign up instructions on their websites.

# My Shake



## Earthquake Early Warning App – Free Download Required

My Shake is a free Opt-In smartphone app that sends an alert BEFORE the ground starts to shake. It provides iPhone and Android users with audio and visual warnings of magnitude 4.5 or higher shaking.

Depending on how far you are from the epicenter, the app may give you a few seconds or up to one minute of warning that the ground is about to shake.

The app is currently available in English and Spanish in the states of California, Oregon, and Washington.

**When you receive an alert or feel shaking, drop, cover, and hold on!**

**DOWNLOAD THE FREE APP** from:

- **Apple App Store:** <https://apps.apple.com/app/id1467058529>
- **Google Play:** <https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=edu.berkeley.bsl.myshake>

Learn more: <https://earthquake.ca.gov/>

# Public Safety Power Shutoff (PSPS) Opt-in Utility Alerts



The local electricity company, PG&E, may turn off electricity, for safety reasons, when gusty winds and dry conditions, combined with a heightened fire risk, are forecasted. When possible, PG&E will email, phone, or text customers who will be impacted before power is turned off.

Public Safety Power Shutoff (PSPS) phone calls, text messages and emails will be sent to warn you that the power will be turned off. Alerts are available in 16 languages.

The power will be off for as long as the weather conditions exist.

**PSPS outage alerts automatically go to the account holder for the affected address. If you are not the account holder for an address, you can still be notified by signing up for Address Alerts.**

Address Alerts can inform you about an expected PSPS event at any address that's important to you. This might include your child's school, your parent's home, or a mobile home park or a rental unit where your landlord pays the PG&E bill.

**ENROLL** at: <https://pgealerts.alerts.pge.com/outages/pmps-address-alert/>

You must re-enroll every year to receive alerts. Learn more:

<https://www.pge.com/en/outages-and-safety/safety/community-wildfire-safety-program/public-safety-power-shutoffs.html>

## Wireless Emergency Alerts (WEA) National Alerts

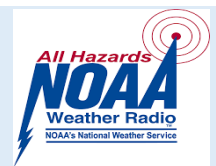


WEA is the national public safety system that sends voice and text-like messages to compatible cell phones in a given geographic area to warn about imminent threats to safety in the area – such as severe weather, missing children, or the need to evacuate. A WEA alert is accompanied by a unique attention signal and vibration, which is particularly helpful to people with hearing or vision-related disabilities.

If you have a cell phone, you will typically receive these alerts automatically and **do not have to sign up.**

Learn more: <https://www.fcc.gov/consumers/guides/wireless-emergency-alerts-wea>

## NOAA – All Hazards Weather Radio National Radio Alerts – *Purchase Required*



In addition to broadcasting weather information 24/7, NOAA All Hazards Weather Radios broadcast warning and post-event information for all types of hazards – including natural (such as earthquakes or avalanches), environmental (such as chemical releases or oil spills), and public safety (such as AMBER alerts or 9-1-1 telephone outages).

**Purchase your radio online or at a local retailer. Make sure the radio has the S.A.M.E. (Specific Area Message Encoding) feature.**

Learn more: <https://www.weather.gov/mob/nwr>