



SPRING AHEAD!

SPRING AND FALL JOBS: IMPORTANT STEPS TO TAKE WHEN YOU CHANGE THE CLOCKS!

1. Change the batteries in your smoke detectors. Save the batteries for re-use in handheld electronic devices and toys. Recycle used batteries through the County's Household Hazardous Waste Program: 408-299-7300.
2. Change all the batteries in your emergency supply kits and your household flashlights. Follow the same reuse and recycle steps as in #1.
3. Rotate the food, water and non-prescription medications in your car kit, desk kit and household caches. Use the previously stored food within the next few weeks. Ensure that the newly stored food is recently purchased and has at least nine months left on the "use by" date noted on the container. Discard medications from the car kit, and put desk kit items in the front of the medicine chest for first use.
4. Check your gas shut off valve. Turn the valve 1/8th of a turn in each direction to ensure that the valve moves freely. If the valve does not move readily, call PG&E for a free valve service and lubrication. **THIS IS NOT A DO-IT-YOURSELF JOB!**
5. Sort through the supplies stored under your kitchen sink and in the laundry cupboard. Ensure that you keep all liquid cleaning products containing "chlorine" or "bleach" in the laundry, and all liquid products containing "ammonia" in the kitchen. If you have children in the home ensure that these cupboards are protected with properly installed and working safety latches to prevent child poisoning.
6. Sort through the toxics stored in your garage. If you find items that you no longer need, properly recycle or discard those items in their original containers through the County's Household Hazardous Waste Program: 408-299-7300. Ensure that the items you keep are segregated by category and properly stored in waterproof containers with lids, and with locks if you have children in your household. Sort into paint and painting supplies; gardening fertilizers and pesticides; automotive products; and hobby supplies. Store the lidded containers on the garage floor or behind locked cupboard doors.
7. Review the medical information in your Vial of Life and with your child's caregiver. Update the information to add or change medical conditions, medications and dosages, doctors' names and phone numbers, and emergency contact information.

These seven steps taken every six months will ensure that you are ready for emergencies!

FALL BACK!