

Subject : Earthquake update

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Today at approximately 2:34 am a 6.4 magnitude earthquake struck south of Eureka approximately 15 miles from Fortuna. At this time power is still out throughout most of Humboldt County. PG&E is working hard to restore power as soon as possible. At this time there is no ETA for power restoration.

Currently our firefighters are busy running calls typically associated with this type of natural disaster including powerlines down, gas leaks, and water leaks. This is in addition to the normal daily calls we see every day. A full mandatory recall of all fire personnel was initiated and answered in force by Humboldt Bay Fire.

Please remember our dispatchers are also very busy during this time and only call 9-1-1 if you are having an immediate emergency. If you are smelling gas evacuate the general area and call 9-1-1. Additionally, if you come across a downed line, power or unknown, do not touch it or attempt to cross the area. Always assume a downed line is live and call 9-1-1 as soon as possible. Safely move away from the line and wait for first responders to show up. Also recognize that with the elevated call volume that it may be some time before qualified personnel arrive.

The City of Eureka has set up a dedicated phone line for anyone concerned with the structural damage to their home or building. These concerns can be reported to (707)441-4155 and an inspector will respond for a safety assessment. The City of Eureka will have a "charging center" available at the Eureka Municipal Auditorium, 1120 F Street from 10 AM until 5 PM today, December 20, 2022. The auditorium will have power available for residents to charge phones, tablets and necessary medical equipment. Please dress warmly as the Muni is a large building and difficult to heat.

Humboldt Bay Fire will update with news and information as it becomes available. In the meantime, remain tuned in to news sources such as TV and radio as well as reliable social media sources to remain informed.

This is a good time to practice your family's emergency action plan since the county may be out of power for an undetermined amount of time. Stay in contact with immediate family, plan where to meet if you get separated, be ready with a flashlight and enough food and water until power is restored. For more information on building and implementing your own emergency preparedness kit go to ready.gov/plan.

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