

# VILLAGES EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS COMMITTEE

## Villages Gas Leak/Shutoff Policy: Summary

### Gas Leak/Shutoff Policy:

- EPC volunteers are directed to take action ONLY at the specific direction of the government agency in charge of the gas leak incident.
- Safety of EPC volunteers is the EPC's highest priority.

### Procedure (after discovering a gas leak):

- 1) Upon discovery, get at least 330 ft. away.
- 2) Report gas leak location to your Sector Chief.
- 3) Sector Chief reports gas leak location to VEOC.
- 4) VEOC informs the controlling government agency(s).
- 5) VEOC follows directions given by controlling government agency.
- 6) Until the gas leak incident has been resolved, all EPC volunteers must stay at least 330 ft. away unless specifically directed to do otherwise by the controlling government agency official.

## Forced Entry Policy

Emergency Preparedness Committee Area Reps are responsible for checking on Villages' residents after an earthquake disaster. Area Reps carry with them an *Area Damage Assessment* form, which they fill out detailing the status of each residence that was visually inspected in their Sector and Area.

**This policy specifies when forced entry into a Villages residence is authorized after an earthquake disaster. In no other cases is forced entry ever authorized.**

Forced entry may only be considered after an earthquake disaster when fire, police, and Villages Public Safety officers are overwhelmed and no other help is seemingly available. Forced entry is never authorized in any other type of emergency or disaster. However, no entry should be made to any residence, if that residence appears unsafe due to structural, electrical, water, gas, or any other type of hazard. Entering a residence should only be done with another person due to the unknown situation therein.

If an OK sign is not properly posted and visual (after inspecting all windows), and the front door is locked, forced entry should be considered only if there is apparent visual and/or audio occupant distress. Area Reps should first check to see if any other doors or windows are unlocked before breaking any window or door to gain entry.