HOW TO PREPARE FOR AN EARTHQUAKE

Take actions NOW to reduce injuries and property damage

ASSESS the potential hazards of your home, work, or school. The safest places are AWAY from heavy furniture, stoves, open shelves, cabinets, mirrors, glass, windows, doors, or pictures

IDENTIFY safe places to take cover.

PLAN what to do in the event of an earthquake and/or tsunami. Consider your home, neighborhood, work, and school. What if your family is separated when the event occurs? Choose a family meeting point for each of these scenarios.

EVALUATE your tsunami evacuation routes and hazards or obstacles you may encounter.

PRACTICE “drop, cover, and hold” drills and evacuating your home and workplace.

PREPARE an emergency supply kit for you and your family.

SECURE your household.

Emergency Supply List

- Flashlights with spare batteries. These must be handy! Have one by your bed.
- Hand-crank or battery-operated radio. Your vehicle radio is a good alternative.
- First aid kit and first aid knowledge. Buy a first aid book!
- Fire extinguisher. Class “ABC” extinguishers are designed for any type of fire.
- Food (canned or dehydrated) and water for your family AND pets.
- Warm clothes and blankets
- Special medications or foods for family AND pets.
- Tools

SECURE YOUR HOUSEHOLD

- Strap down computers
- Secure ceiling fans and hanging light fixtures
- Strap down televisions and other expensive or hazardous electrical components
- Secure cabinets to wall studs; use latches to keep cabinet doors from flying open
- Ensure that gas appliances have flexible connections
- Upgrate unbraced crawlspace walls (or other foundation problems)
- Strap bookcases and shelves to walls to prevent tipping
- Know how to shut off utilities

- Brace or replace masonry chimneys
- Securely fasten or relocate heavy pictures and mirrors over beds and furniture
- Brace water heaters and ensure that gas models have flexible connections
- Strengthen garages that have living spaces above them

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