



## EARTHQUAKE SAFETY

We have heard it so many times – the “big one” is coming. In our lifetime, we still haven’t seen or felt that huge earthquake. That shouldn’t stop us from preparing for the worst.

Remember to **Drop, Cover & Hold On!** No matter where you are, know how to protect yourself and your family during an earthquake! During the first 72 hours after an earthquake, electricity, gas, water, and telephones may not be working. You should be prepared to be self-sufficient for at least three days following a quake and more likely up to a week. The following is a list of supplies you should have on hand in an emergency kit: Food, water, first aid kit, fire extinguisher, flashlights with extra batteries, portable battery operated radio, extra blankets, clothing, sturdy shoes, cash, alternate cooking sources, medicines, eye glasses, food for pets, and tools.

### Before an Earthquake:

- Prepare an emergency supply kit.
- Know the safe spots in each room.
- Schedule practice drills
- Choose an out of state friend/relative to call after the incident.



### During an Earthquake:

- Drop, Cover, and Hold On.
- If indoors, stay there.
- If outdoors, get into an open area away from trees, buildings, walls, and power lines.
- If driving, pull over to the side of the road and stop. Avoid overpasses, underpasses, and power lines. Stay inside your vehicle until the shaking stops.

### After an Earthquake:

- Unless there is an immediate, life-threatening emergency, do not attempt to use the telephone.
- Check for gas and water leaks, broken electrical wiring, or sewage lines. If there is damage, turn the utility off at the source and report to your utility company. Only shut off gas if you smell leaking gas.
- Check your building/home for cracks and damage- including the roof, chimneys, and foundation.
- Turn on your portable radio for emergency instructions.
- Do not use your vehicle unless there is an emergency. Keep the roads clear for emergency vehicles.
- Be prepared for aftershocks.

*For More Information*

[www.ready.gov](http://www.ready.gov)

[www.fema.gov](http://www.fema.gov)

[www.redcross.org](http://www.redcross.org)