



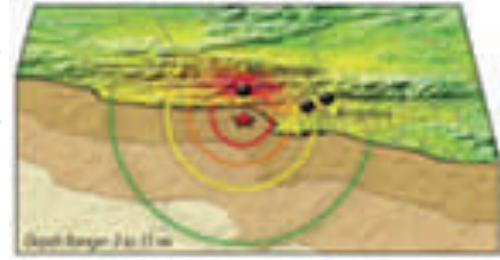
Cathedral City

www.cathedralcityfire.org

Fire Department

DO YOU KNOW WHAT TO DO WHEN THE GROUND SHAKES?

Earthquakes strike suddenly, violently and without warning. If you grew up in the western United States, there's a good chance you were taught young to stop, duck and cover. But there's more you can do to prepare and survive. The real challenge begins after the initial earthquake. The Cathedral City Fire Department is here to help you prepare.



~ What to Do Before an Earthquake: Six Ways to Plan Ahead ~

CHECK FOR HAZARDS IN THE HOME:

- Fasten shelves securely to walls. Place large or heavy objects on lower shelves.
- Store breakable items such as bottled foods, glass, and china in low, closed cabinets with latches.
- Hang heavy items such as pictures and mirrors away from beds, couches, and anywhere people sit.
- Brace overhead light fixtures.
- Secure a water heater by strapping it to the wall studs and bolting it to the floor.

IDENTIFY SAFE PLACES INDOORS AND OUTDOORS:

- Under sturdy furniture such as a heavy desk or table.
- In the open, away from buildings, trees, telephone and electrical lines, overpasses, or elevated expressways.
- Away from where glass could shatter around windows, mirrors, pictures, or where heavy bookcases or other heavy furniture could fall over.
- Against an inside wall.

EDUCATE YOURSELF AND FAMILY MEMBERS:

- Teach children how and when to call 9-1-1, police, or fire department and which radio station to tune to for emergency information.
- Teach all family members how and when to turn off gas, electricity, and water.

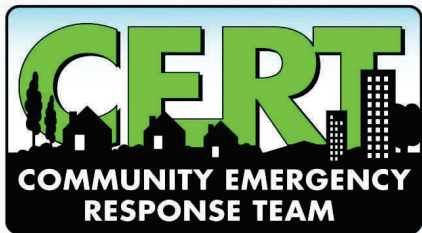
HAVE DISASTER SUPPLIES ON HAND:

- Flashlight and extra batteries.
- Nonelectric can opener.
- Portable battery-operated radio and extra batteries.
- Essential medicines.
- First aid kit and manual.
- Cash and credit cards.
- Emergency food and water.
- Sturdy shoes.

DEVELOP AN EMERGENCY COMMUNICATION PLAN:

- In case family members are separated from one another during an earthquake (a real possibility during the day when adults are at work and children are at school), develop a plan for reuniting after the disaster.
- Ask an out-of-state relative or friend to serve as the "family contact." After a disaster, it's often easier to call long distance. Make sure everyone in the family knows the name, address, and phone number of the contact person.

HELP YOUR COMMUNITY GET READY:



The Cathedral City Fire Department provides a 20 hour, federally certified course to teach residents light fire suppression, first aid, medical triage and light search and rescue techniques. Please contact us at (760) 770-8219 for upcoming class information. Round up your neighbors and learn as a team to help yourselves and maybe save the lives of your neighbors.

90% OF EARTHQUAKE VICTIMS ARE RESCUED BY OTHER VICTIMS

For more safety tips, visit our website at www.cathedralcityfire.org
and FEMA at <http://www.fema.gov/hazard/earthquake/>