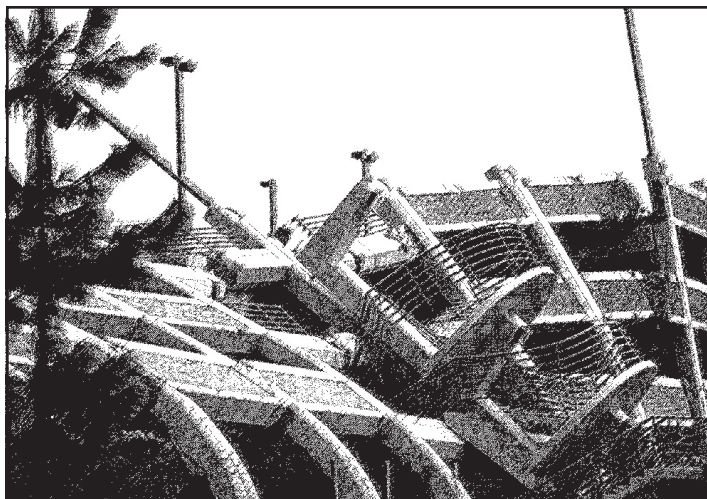


ESP

FOCUS

Then and Now



Earthquakes

We have learned a great deal about earthquakes since the magnitude 7.8 San Francisco earthquake of April 18, 1906 which ranks as one of the most significant earthquakes of all time. It was one of the most devastating in the history of California. The earthquake and resulting fires caused an estimated 3,000 deaths and \$524 million in property loss (in 1906 dollars!). The shaking in San Francisco was felt for about 1 minute. The fires that ignited soon after the earthquake quickly raged through the city due to damage to the water system needed to control them. The fires destroyed a large part of San Francisco.

Today, the 1906 earthquake's importance comes more from the wealth of scientific knowledge learned than from its size and damage. The earthquake surprised geologists of the time with its large horizontal displacements and great rupture length of over 250 miles. The earthquake was felt from

southern Oregon to Los Angeles, California and as far inland as central Nevada. The earthquake brought new attention to the destructive potential of earthquakes in California, and launched modern earthquake science and engineering. Even in our modern age when other threats may seem more destructive, earthquakes have remained the greatest threat for California because of their frequency and potential for widespread devastation.

Terrorism

Before the devastating events of September 11, 2001, we didn't know as much as we do today about terrorism. Many Americans believed that terrorism only affected other countries. Now we know that it can happen here, but we don't know when or where. Much of the fear caused by terrorism – or the threat of it – is based on this uncertainty: not knowing whether it will hurt us or our loved ones directly, or whether it will target our own community or workplace. However, the terrorists are not in charge. Governmental officials are working hard to find terrorists and to limit their ability to harm us. At the same time, there is a lot that each of us can do to limit the terrorists' ability to frighten us.

Check these websites

<http://dropcoverholdon.org/> (dropcoverholdon.org/espanol)

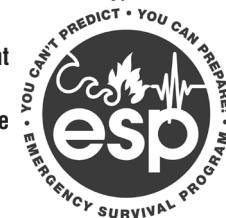
www.dhs.gov (United States Department of Homeland Security)

www.espfocus.org (Emergency Survival Program)

www.fema.gov (Federal Emergency Management Agency)

www.scec.org (Southern California Earthquake Center)

www.usgs.gov (United States Geological Survey)



JANUARY

www.espfocus.org

What You Can Do Now

Preparing for any disaster such as earthquakes, fires, floods and terrorism is basically the same. It all starts with a family emergency plan.

- Evacuation:** Whether you are at home, at work, or in a public place, think of how you could leave quickly and safely. Locate stairways and emergency exits. Pay attention to posted evacuation signs in buildings, subways and crowded public areas.
- Out-of-state contact:** Think how you will get in contact with your family if you become separated. Choose an out-of-state contact that your family members or friends can call to check on each other. Provide all family members with a paper list of important contact phone numbers.
- Meeting place:** Decide where you and family members will meet if the emergency affects your home, or if officials have to evacuate your neighborhood.
- School plans:** Know the emergency plans at your children's schools, and make sure the school has your updated emergency contact information. Keep your children's school emergency release card current.
- Preparation for children:** Teach your children what to do in an emergency, and make sure they know their own names and addresses, as well as the full names and contact information for parents and a second adult emergency contact.

Finally, review your emergency plan, and maintain an **emergency supply kit** at home, at work, at school, and in your car.

What You Can Do During

Earthquakes happen without warning and terrorists count on surprise, fear, and confusion to add to the impact of their actions. The initial safety actions for earthquakes and terrorist attacks, such as bombings, are similar. Your first step when something happens is to pause and think. Look around you to see what is happening, and what immediate steps you can take to protect yourself and others.

- To protect yourself, drop down; take cover under something sturdy, and hold on to something with one hand while protecting your head and neck with the other.



- If there is smoke, get near the floor, cover your mouth and nose with a cloth, and move carefully toward the nearest marked exit.
- If it is necessary to evacuate, try to do so calmly. Use only marked exits and stairways. Never use elevators. Help others who are moving more slowly or who may be disoriented.

If you are not directly affected by the earthquake or the attack, try to stay calm, think before you act, encourage others, and comfort children. Turn on news radio or television, and listen for official instructions. Follow the directions of authorities.

What You Can Do After

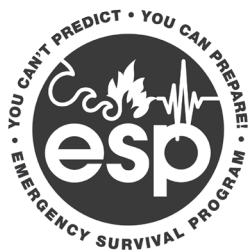
Try to stay calm. Think before you act. Don't let an earthquake or act of terrorism cause you unnecessary harm.

- Stay informed. Listen to official reports and instructions on the radio or television.
- If officials order an evacuation, cooperate quickly and follow their instructions regarding evacuation routes and shelter locations.
- If officials tell you to "Shelter in Place," they mean for you to stay inside your home, vehicle or workplace until it is safe to come out. They will provide you with detailed instructions.
- Do not leave your sheltered location or return to the evacuated area until officials confirm that it is safe to do so.
- Implement your family emergency plan, and notify your out-of-state contact of your location and status.
- Be aware of the psychological impact that terrorism can inflict, even when it happens to people you do not know personally.
- If an earthquake has occurred, go to the California Integrated Seismic Network at www.cisn.org to get information about the location/magnitude/shakemap of the earthquake.

This project was supported by FY07 UASI funding awarded by the California Emergency Management Agency, through FEMA/DHS.



This information sheet is produced as part of the Emergency Survival Program (ESP). ESP is an awareness campaign designed to increase home, neighborhood, business and school emergency preparedness. ESP was developed by the County of Los Angeles. The California Emergency Management Agency (Cal EMA) and representatives from Contra Costa, Imperial, Inyo, Kern, Los Angeles, Marin, Mono, Orange, Riverside, San Bernardino, San Diego, San Luis Obispo, Santa Barbara, Santa Cruz, and Ventura counties, Southern California Edison, the Southern California Earthquake Center and the American Red Cross assist in the development of campaign materials and coordination of the campaign.



Emergency Survival Program (ESP)

YOU CAN'T PREDICT. YOU CAN PREPARE!

Use the Emergency Survival Program's new list of actions as your guide for personal and community emergency preparedness.

January

Then and Now

In large regional earthquakes, such as the 1906 San Francisco earthquake, or the terrorism acts of September 11, 2001, emergency response agencies might be overwhelmed. You, your neighbors, co-workers and classmates may be forced to take actions on your own. Take time now to learn about what happened then and how it can prepare you for the safety actions to take now.

February

Make a Plan

Planning for an earthquake, terrorist attack, or other emergency is easier than you think. Make sure that your emergency plan includes evacuation and reunion plans; your out-of-state contact person's name and number; the location of your emergency supplies and other pertinent information. By planning now, you will be ready for the next emergency.

March

Make Disaster Kits

Everyone should have disaster supplies kits stored in accessible locations at home, at work and in your vehicle. Having emergency supplies readily available can reduce the impact of an earthquake, a terrorist incident or other emergency on you and your family. Your disaster supplies kits should include food, water, flashlights, portable radios, batteries, a first aid kit, cash, extra medications, a whistle, fire extinguisher, etc.

April

Floods

Storms can cause flash floods, create power outages and damage homes. Assemble emergency supplies to include sand bags; identify safe routes; and teach children to avoid areas of potential flooding. When flooding occurs, listen to the radio or watch television for information and instructions.

May

Terrorism

Fear is a major tactic used by terrorists to achieve political and social objectives. But the terrorists are not in charge. You can fight back by taking many of the same actions you would to prepare for earthquakes, fires, and other emergencies. Start by having a family emergency plan. Also assemble emergency supply kits at home, at work, and in your car.

June

Public Health Emergencies

Public Health Emergencies may be related to outbreaks of infectious diseases, food and waterborne illnesses, and other threats to the public's health and safety. Pandemic flu is of concern and health experts recommend the following to prevent the spread of flu: wash your hands with soap and water frequently; cover your cough and sneeze; stay home if you are sick. Stay away from others so they will not become sick. In autumn, get the flu shot!

July

Heat Wave

Although sun is necessary, exposure to ultraviolet radiation is potentially dangerous and can damage skin. Heat injuries that can occur include sunburn, heat cramps, heat exhaustion and heatstroke. If your home is not air-conditioned, spend time in public facilities like public libraries, malls, and community centers that are air-conditioned. Never leave children or pets unattended in hot vehicles.

August

Drop, Cover, and Hold On!

Learn what to do during an earthquake, whether you're at home, at work, at school or just out and about. Taking the proper actions, such as "Drop, Cover, and Hold On", can save lives and reduce your risk of death or injury. During earthquakes, drop to the floor, take cover under a sturdy desk or table, and hold on to it firmly. Be prepared to move with it until the shaking stops. If you are at the beach, move to higher ground.

September

Back to School

Schools should have emergency plans to meet the threat of terrorism, earthquakes and other emergencies. They should be updated and exercised regularly. Emergency supplies, such as water, food and other basic items, are also an important part of school preparedness. If you are a parent or guardian, know your child's school emergency plan and make sure they have your updated emergency contact information.

October

Earthquakes

No one knows when the next earthquake will happen, but we can reduce its impact by being prepared. Identify hazards and remove or reduce them. Store emergency supplies and replenish them annually. Educate your family where to drop, cover, and hold on and take a first aid course. Conduct practice drills on a regular basis.

November

Fire and Ice

Preparedness is the key to surviving wildland fires and lethal winter storms. Timely preparation, including structural and non-structural measures to avoid the impacts of wildland fires and severe winter weather, can help reduce heavy repair expenditures following an event. Also remember to keep your car and other vehicles fueled and in good repair in case you are asked to evacuate. Have your emergency survival kit ready to go with you, just in case.

December

Landslides and Mudslides

Significant property damage can be caused by landslides and mudslides. Prepare an evacuation kit to include important documents and irreplaceable items such as photographs. When it rains, monitor the amount of rainfall and look for warning signs of landslides and mudslides such as new springs, tilted trees or new holes in hillsides.

Additional campaign materials are available through your local County Office of Emergency Management.

www.espfocus.org

This project was supported by FY07 UASI funding awarded by the California Emergency Management Agency, through FEMA/DHS.