

## SUGGESTED TOPICS FOR FAMILY DISCUSSION

No two family emergency plans will be alike, but there are certain essentials each person in your household should know. This is a guideline for the kinds of subjects your family will want to discuss.

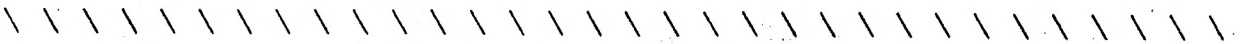
1. How can we prepare ourselves to respond in a positive, appropriate manner during and after a disaster? (Learn the Do's and Don'ts at home or away from home.)
2. Who will be responsible for giving orders, for rounding up family members and getting them started on their emergency tasks without delay? Who is the backup person to give these emergency orders?
3. Where are the locations in our home that represent potential danger during an earthquake? That offer the most protection?
  - Do we need to rearrange the way things are stored?
  - Could beds under windows be moved to a safer location?
  - What appliances and furniture needs to be secured?
  - Are there any structural features that require reinforcing?
  - Where can we expect failing debris?
4. How shall we rehearse our earthquake response plans? (Have family earthquake drills periodically. Talk over your rehearsals afterwards and decide how you can improve your performance.)
5. If we become separated indoors, where will we plan to meet outdoors?
6. What are the best escape routes from our house if regular exits are blocked? (Pay special attention to rooms located above or below the main floor.) What are our search and rescue plans?
7. Are we prepared to evacuate our home in one-half hour or less?

8. How can we practice fire prevention all year? What is our plan in case of fire? What actions will we take to protect home from fire after an earthquake?
9. Do we want to purchase earthquake insurance? We will need to weigh the costs and benefits.
10. What should we do if an earthquake strikes when we are at work? at school? in a high rise building? on the freeway? at the market? at a football game? in a theatre? etc.
11. Where is the nearest emergency shelter location - to our house? to our schools? to our places of work?
12. What is our plan if we are in separate parts of the city during a severe earthquake?
13. What are the best ways to reunite family after an earthquake?
14. Which out-of-state relative or friend will serve as our "family contact center" where others can get in touch or leave messages? Teach children this telephone number.
15. Are there special hazards near our home? Are we in a possible inundation area in case of dam failure?
16. What in the Emergency Management plan for major disasters in our area?
17. How can we get our neighbors involved in similar preparedness planning? Cooperative efforts among neighbors can save lives and property in times of disaster!
18. How can we develop the ability to be self-sufficient if we are isolated from help?
19. How much ready cash will we need? Banks may be closed over a large geographical area.
20. What emergency supplies do we need to assemble? Who should be responsible for this task?
21. Where will we store our emergency supplies?
22. What is the Emergency Broadcast System (EBS)? Why should we tune in after a disaster?



AS YOU MAKE YOUR PLANS, IMAGINE LIVING CONDITIONS UNDER THESE THREE POSSIBILITIES:

1. Your house suffers some damage - broken windows, fallen plaster, minor roof damage, bricks toppled. Some of your utilities have been disrupted but you can stay in the house.
2. Your house is so badly damaged that it is unsafe for occupancy. You must not stay in the house but could "camp out" in your own backyard or nearby open area or safe shelter.
3. Your house and the entire neighborhood has been declared unsafe and you must relocate a distance from home for a period of time, say two weeks.



#### EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS OVERVIEW

- Assemble car and office mini-survival kits.
- Select sturdy shoes and place in accessible locations.
- Assemble special personal needs, e.g. important medicine, infant supplies, or special foods.
- Duplicate and store an extra set of car keys. If eye glasses are a necessity, keep an extra pair.
- Be sure that enough flashlights and a battery radio are available and working, with spare fresh batteries on hand.
- Check water, food and first-aid supplies every 6 months.
- Learn how to turn off all utilities at main control points and secure house.
- Check house for hazardous furniture arrangements (bed under window, etc.)
- Secure furniture and other objects for greater stability.
- Rearrange shelves with heaviest objects on the bottom.
- Check the area around your home for possible hazards (unreinforced block walls, power lines, overhanging tree branches, etc.)
- Take photographs of valuables and engrave a driver's license number where appropriate for identification.

- Practice preparedness plans every 3-6 months. Assign dates.
- Brief baby-sitters and other regular household help on family emergency plans.
- Develop a support plan with neighbors.
- Compile an up-to-date first aid kit including a first aid book.
- Take training in first aid, CPR and Light Search & Rescue.
- Keep family immunizations current.
- Have signed medical release for family members on file with family doctors and area hospitals.
- Assemble supplies for fire prevention and control.
- Take training in fire fighting.
- Learn how to use home fire equipment. Develop a fire response plan for family.
- Appoint a family fire marshall to search home, yard, and surrounding area for fire hazards.
- Plan a specific time to clean up any fire hazards uncovered in your search.
- Make plans to assist those who will need help, e.g. baby brother, bed-ridden grand-mother, or invalid next door.
- Assemble family pet needs.
- Provide for safe storage of vital records.
- Provide sanitation supplies.
- Store drinking water and purification supplies, 72-hour, 2-week.
- Prepare a 72-hour survival food supply.
- Set up an area for food storage. Fill with a 2-week food supply.