

# Prepare San Marino

Taking steps to be the Most Prepared City in Los Angeles County

## Earthquake Safety for All of Us



Southern California is such a beautiful place to live, it is sometimes difficult to think about the day a disaster impacts our City and the skies turn gray. Do you know what to do to stay safe during an earthquake?

The largest earthquake in two decades rattled Southern California on Thursday morning, causing shaking in communities from Las Vegas to Long Beach, ending a quiet period in the state's seismic history and providing a gentle reminder that we all live and work in earthquake country.

The July 4<sup>th</sup> earthquake struck at 10:33 a.m., the magnitude 6.4 trembler was centered about 125 miles northeast of Los Angeles in the remote area near where Inyo, San Bernardino and Kern counties meet. A 7.1 magnitude earthquake shook Southern California again on Friday evening. Fortunately there have been no immediate reports of deaths, serious injuries or major infrastructure damage in our local area.

Now is an opportune time to remind all residents of San Marino how they should prepare themselves and their families to remain safe in the event of an earthquake.

### Prepare **NOW**

- Secure items, such as televisions, and objects that hang on walls. Store heavy, breakable objects on low shelves.
- **Practice Drop, Cover, then Hold On** with family and coworkers. Drop to your hands and knees. Cover your head and neck with your arms. Crawl only as far as needed to reach cover from falling materials. Hold on to any sturdy furniture until the shaking stops.
- Create a family emergency communications plan that has an out-of-state contact. Plan where to meet if you get separated.
- Make a supply kit that includes enough food and water for at least three days, a flashlight, a fire extinguisher, and a whistle. Consider each person's specific needs, including medication. Do not forget the needs of pets. Have extra batteries and charging devices for phones and other critical equipment.
- Consider obtaining an earthquake insurance policy. Standard homeowner's insurance does not cover earthquake damage.

### Survive **DURING**

- **Drop, Cover, then Hold On** like you practiced. Drop to your hands and knees. Cover your head and neck with your arms. Hold on to any sturdy furniture until the shaking stops. Crawl only if you can reach better cover without going through an area with more debris.

- If in bed, stay there and cover your head and neck with a pillow.
- If inside, stay there until the shaking stops. DO NOT run outside.
- If in a vehicle, stop in a clear area that is away from buildings, trees, overpasses, underpasses, or utility wires.
- If you are in a high-rise building, expect fire alarms and sprinklers to go off. Do not use elevators.
- If near slopes, cliffs, or mountains, be alert for falling rocks and landslides.

### **Be Safe AFTER**

- Expect aftershocks to follow the largest shock of an earthquake.
- Check yourself for injury and provide assistance to others if you have training.
- If in a damaged building, go outside and quickly move away from the building.
- Do not enter damaged buildings.
- If you are trapped, cover your mouth. Send a text, bang on a pipe or wall, or use a whistle instead of shouting so that rescuers can locate you.
- If you are in an area that may experience tsunamis, go inland or to higher ground immediately after the shaking stops.
- Save phone calls for emergencies.
- Once safe, monitor local news reports via battery operated radio, TV, social media, and cell phone text alerts for emergency information and instructions.
- Use extreme caution during post-disaster clean-up of buildings and around debris. Do not attempt to remove heavy debris by yourself. Wear protective clothing, including a long-sleeved shirt, long pants, work gloves, and sturdy, thick-soled shoes during clean-up.

Lastly, remember that disaster can strike at anytime. You can help prepare your family and home using the above tips, as well as resources available on the City of San Marino website at [www.cityofsanmarino.org/1105/Emergency-Preparedness](http://www.cityofsanmarino.org/1105/Emergency-Preparedness).

