

## EMERGENCY SUPPLIES

- ⊙ Water for seven (7) days. You will need one gallon of water per person per day.
- ⊙ Dry food, canned foods and can opener.
- ⊙ Paper goods and plastic utensils.
- ⊙ Clothing and hard soled shoes.
- ⊙ Flashlights and extra batteries.
- ⊙ Portable radio and extra batteries. In the Inland Empire the primary station for the Emergency Advisory System is KFRG 95.1 FM. However, any Inland Empire-based station will receive the information also. Remember, Los Angeles-based stations will not have Riverside emergency advisory information.
- ⊙ First aid kit and first aid book.
- ⊙ Extra glasses and medicines. Include the names(s) of the family doctor and phone number.
- ⊙ Plenty of pet food, water and a leash.
- ⊙ Extra cash as ATMs may not work.
- ⊙ Sanitation supplies.
- ⊙ Special items for infants and small children.
- ⊙ Blanket or sleeping bag for each member of the family.
- ⊙ Keep important documents in a waterproof container. Have duplicates located somewhere such as a safety deposit box. These will be needed to receive any type of financial assistance from the government.

## GOVERNMENT READINESS

The Governor's Office of Emergency Services (OES) coordinates preparedness for and response to natural disasters such as earthquakes, fires and floods by activating the California Emergency Management System used by all California public safety agencies. OES also coordinates state-level recovery.

OES is the most experienced, innovative and effective emergency management agency in the world. In the past 15 years, OES has successfully managed response and recovery to more than 22 Presidentially declared disasters, including the 1994 Northridge Earthquake, which was the most costly disaster in U.S history until September 11, 2001.

### REMEMBER

- ☞ Remain calm, do not panic.
- ☞ Follow your family emergency plan. Check for injuries. (First aid tips are in the white pages of your telephone book.)
- ☞ Stay informed by listening to a battery-powered radio.
- ☞ If evacuations are ordered, follow the instruction of the local officials regarding routes and the location of shelters. If evacuating from work, use the stairs and stay to the right to leave a clear path for firefighters and other emergency personnel.
- ☞ If "shelter-in-place" is recommended, stay indoors, close windows and doors, and turn off air conditioning.
- ☞ Do not leave your sheltered location or return to the evacuated area until it is deemed safe to do so by local officials.
- ☞ Do not call 911 unless you have a life and death emergency.

Also available in Spanish. Call 826-5550.

# City of Riverside Guide to Disaster Preparedness



Office of  
Emergency Management  
(909) 826-5550

[www.ci.riverside.ca.us/fire/  
disaster.html](http://www.ci.riverside.ca.us/fire/disaster.html)

## INTRODUCTION

The City of Riverside has an Emergency Operations Plan which responds to natural and man-made disasters. This plan is essential in assisting City employees to better serve you during a major disaster such as an earthquake.

The City of Riverside conducts two yearly disaster exercises to better prepare the police and fire responders as well as other City employees with disaster responsibilities.

This brochure is meant to assist you in better preparing your family emergency plan. Please take a few moments to read this with your family so you are prepared for a catastrophic event. If you have already prepared, take this time to review your plans and update your disaster kits.

## FAMILY PLAN

Knowing what to do before, during and after a major disaster will give comfort to you and your loved ones.

A family plan should include such things as where you will meet each other in the event you are separated during a disaster. This could be a vacant lot by your home or a relative or friend's home. Wherever you select, it should be within walking distance of your home. You may not be able to drive immediately after the event.

Select an out-of-state contact number. For instance, if you have a friend or relative who lives in Arizona, this would be an excellent way to make contact with your family again. All members should be instructed to call the number in Arizona to find out how and where everyone is. This way

you will only need to make one phone call to check the safety of your family. Share this number with family and friends so they will know as well.

Make sure your family pets are well taken care of. If you should have to evacuate your home, they will not be able to go to a shelter with you. Do you have a strong leash to make sure they will stay in your yard? This is for cats as well as for dogs. Do you have plenty of food and water in the event you need to leave your pets for a few days?

Responsible family members should know where the electric fuse box, water service main and natural gas main are located. In the event these need to be shut off, know how to do it and have the proper tools readily available. Remember, turn off the utilities only if you suspect the lines are damaged or if you are instructed to do so. If you turn the gas off, you will need someone from the Gas Company to turn it back on.

Make sure you give assignments to the younger children in your home. This will give them a feeling of preparedness, too.

Family members should review their plan periodically. Practice your plan at least every six months to make sure everyone is familiar with it. Any necessary changes can be done at this time.

## HOME HAZARD HUNT

Earthquakeproof your home after you have completed your plan. Do a home hazard hunt. This can be a game you and your children can play. Everyone should go to their rooms and see what kinds of things would fall on them in the event of an earthquake.

Pictures, mirrors and large furniture should be properly secured to the wall to prevent falling on a family member. If these items are over a crib or bed of a young child, they should be removed. Properly secure file cabinets, bookshelves, hutches and entertainment centers to the wall. Purchase industrial-strength Velcro or other earthquake-securing materials from your local hardware store. Use these to keep TVs, computers, dishes and other glassware from sliding off the shelf and injuring someone.

## SCHOOL PLAN

Schools are required to have an emergency plan in place. Make sure you are familiar with their plan. Check your child's emergency card on file to make sure the phone numbers are correct. Are any of the designated people close enough to the school where they could walk to pick up your child? Talk to your children about the school plan and what will happen. Help your child prepare an earthquake kit for school. Items to include should be such things as a favorite toy or book for a younger child, puzzle or coloring books and crayons, and a family picture (include the family pet if at all possible). Ask your child to write a letter to you to place in your kit. In turn, write a letter to your child to let them know you will be all right and reunited soon.

Remember, schools are required and prepared to keep your child at their location until they have been picked up.

## WORK PLAN

Become familiar with your employer's emergency plan. In the event of an emergency, make sure you have personal and sanitation supplies in your car or desk, a change of clothes, extra glasses, medicines if required, hard soled shoes, and a whistle.