

EMERGENCY COMMUNICATION AND IMPORTANT DOCUMENTS ACCESS

Cell Phones

- Keep a list of emergency phone numbers in your cell phone and in your home phone.
- For non-emergency communications, use text messaging, e-mail, or social media instead of making voice calls on your cell phone. Data-based services like texts and emails are less likely to experience network congestion.
- Keep charged batteries and car-phone chargers available for back-up power for your cell phone.
- If you have a traditional landline (non-broadband or VOIP) phone, keep at least one non-cordless phone in your home because it will work even if you lose power.
- Prepare a family contact sheet. This should include at least one out-of-town contact that may be better able to reach family members in an emergency.
Program "In Case of Emergency" (ICE) contacts into your cell phone so emergency personnel can contact those people for you if you are unable to use your phone. Let your ICE contacts know that they are programmed into your phone and inform them of any medical issues or other special needs you may have.
- If you are evacuated and have call-forwarding on your home phone, forward your home phone number to your cell phone number.
- If you are evacuating, change the message on your cell phone to indicate where you are going.
- Subscribe to text alert services from local or state governments to receive alerts in the event of a disaster. Parents should sign up for their school district emergency alert system.

Online Account Management

Keep a secured and encrypted list of:

- User names and passwords
 - Bank account numbers
 - Credit card numbers with 800 numbers to
 - E-mail accounts
 - Vehicle ID and License Plates
 - Insurance Policies and agent information
- There are programs available online that enable you to log into one safe site to access all the essential information you may need following any disaster from any location. Some cellular devices also offer this service.

Cash

After a damaging earthquake, it won't be "business as usual." Banks and ATMs might be closed for an indefinite period, so your money in the bank will stay there.

Include in your earthquake kit a sufficient amount of cash to get you through the emergency period. You'll need cash to purchase food, gas and other emergency supplies. Small bills – ones, fives and tens – are best.

Video your Home & Valuables

Make a video home inventory of each room including closets and drawers. List all your valuables.

Important Documents

After a damaging earthquake, you'll need vital personal documents and information for insurance claims and other matters. Keep the following items and documents and/or copies of them in a safe deposit box, freezer or another safe place. Consider an off-site location or put it on a thumb drive and send to a family member.

- Social security cards
- Birth certificates
- Marriage and death records
- Driver's license
- Credit cards
- Insurance policies and agent information
- Recent income tax returns
- Mortgage and rental receipts
- Employment paycheck stubs
- Deeds
- Stocks and bonds
- Savings and checking account books
- Documentation of valuables (video or photo documentation)
- Wills
- Health history, allergies, blood types
- Recent photos of family members for identification purposes