**PERSONAL & FAMILY RESPONSE: DURING AND AFTER A DISASTER**

**DURING AN EARTHQUAKE**

**DROP, COVER & HOLD ON. GET UNDER AND HOLD ONTO A STURDY DESK OR TABLE.**

| If you are INDOORS, stay there |
| If you are OUTDOORS, get into the open |
| If you are DRIVING |

- If you are INDOORS, stay there
  - Avoid windows, heavy furniture, bookcases, fireplaces and large appliances. If no cover is available, sit with your back against an interior wall. **Make yourself as small as possible** and cover your head and neck with your hands and arms.

- If you are OUTDOORS, get into the open
  - Stay clear of buildings, power lines or things that could fall on you. If you are in a hilly area, be aware of possible landslides. **If you are OUTDOORS near tall buildings**
  - Shelter in a doorway or inside the building to protect yourself from falling bricks, glass, plaster and debris.

- If you are DRIVING
  - Turn on your emergency flashers, pull to the side of the road and stop in a safe place. Never stop on bridges, overpasses or underpasses. Avoid power lines, sound walls, large trees, light posts and overhead signs. Stay inside the vehicle until the shaking stops.

**DURING OTHER DISASTERS (wildfire, winter storm, etc.)**

| FIRE IN YOUR HOME – Get everyone, including pets, out of the house immediately. Call 911. Once outside, stay outside. Go to your family meeting place. |
| USING A FIRE EXTINGUISHER – Never attempt to extinguish a fire larger than a trash can! |
| GET ACCURATE INFORMATION – Listen for the Emergency Warning Siren System. Check an emergency broadcast radio station (KCBS 740 AM or KQED 88.5 FM). Monitor AC Alerts ([www.acgov.org](http://www.acgov.org)). Refer to OCP&R Guide #02 – Notifications and Warnings |
| PREPARE TO EVACUATE – If you see smoke or wildfire, evacuate quickly! In a fast-moving wildfire situation, you may only have a few minutes to get out. **If ordered to evacuate, do so immediately!** Refer to OCP&R Guide #06 – Emergency Evacuations |

| CHECK ON YOUR NEIGHBORS – Do they know what’s happening? Do they need help to evacuate? |
| IF TOLD TO “SHELTER-IN-PLACE” get everyone (and pets) inside as quickly as possible. Close all exterior doors & windows, close vents & fireplace dampers, turn off heat/AC systems. Go to an interior room, take a battery-powered radio, water, food, sanitary supplies, a flashlight and your disaster supply kit. Monitor an emergency broadcast radio station for further instructions. |

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AFTER A DISASTER
REMAIN CALM AND FOLLOW YOUR PLAN!

CHECK YOURSELF, YOUR FAMILY, PETS AND HOME to make sure they are safe. Administer first aid if necessary.

IF YOU NEED HELP make as much noise as possible to attract attention. Shout, use a whistle or bang on something with your hand or another object.

PUT ON PROTECTIVE CLOTHING, sturdy shoes, long pants, long sleeve shirt, heavy work gloves, dust mask and eye protection. Be especially careful of broken glass and other hazards.

CONTROL OR CONFINCE PETS until their stress level diminishes.

SNIFF FOR GAS LEAKS AROUND YOUR HOME. Do not strike a match, light a fire, turn on light switches, turn on a flashlight or use a cell phone if you suspect a gas leak.

- If you smell gas, use a large wrench to turn off the exterior supply at the gas shut-off valve. Open windows and stay outside until gas clears.
- If you do not smell gas, do NOT turn the gas supply off. Once you turn off the gas, it may be unsafe to turn it back on yourself and you may need to call PG&E.

CHECK YOUR HOME FOR DAMAGE (cracked foundation, damaged or collapsed chimney, jammed doors, etc.). At night, use a chemical light stick to look for dangerous conditions if you smell gas. Stay clear of any dangerous areas such as a partially fallen chimney or tree. If your home is significantly damaged or is not squarely on its foundation, get out and do not re-enter.

CHECK AND ASSIST YOUR NEIGHBORS. Provide first aid, if needed.

GET ACCURATE INFORMATION: Listen to emergency broadcast radio (KCBS - 740 AM, KGO - 810 AM or KQED 88.5 FM). Monitor AC Alerts (www.acgov.org).

BE PREPARED TO EVACUATE IF NOTIFIED. Meet at your family meeting place if ordered to evacuate.

CALL OR TEXT YOUR OUT-OF-AREA CONTACT and/or use your family group on WhatsApp, Viber, Telegram, etc. Report your status and where you will go. Minimize phone use and refrain from sending videos. Change to low power or airplane mode to preserve battery life. NOTE: Texts often go through when calls are dropped.

IF EVERYONE IN YOUR HOME IS OK with no emergency needs, write OK in large letters on white paper and attach in a location visible from the street to let others know that your home has been checked and everyone is ok. Register with the American Red Cross “Safe & Well” site so family and friends know you’re okay (safeandwell.communityos.org).

OK

OCP&R is a program of the Oakland Firesafe Council.
Contact OCP&R for more information and assistance with personal and family response.

Thanking the Oakland Police and Fire Departments for their contribution to this content. Version 1.1 7/21/20

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