

EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS TIPS - Earthquakes

1. Potential hazards in our area: earthquake, fire, storm, blackout, terrorism.
2. Be prepared to be on your own for a minimum of 3 days.
3. Stock up water, food, medical supplies, first aid kit, flashlights, battery operated radio, plastic bags for waste disposal, blankets, duct tape, etc.
4. **In case of earthquake:**
 - Danger is getting hit (especially your head) by falling objects and glass.
 - The tower is strong – safer to stay inside during the shaking.
 - If you are outside, get inside unless you are located in very open area.
 - [If in car, pull over & stop (except on bridge or in tunnel); stay in car.]
 - Stay away from windows, heavy furniture, appliances, bookcases, kitchen.
 - Choose a safe place in your suite (or stairwell).
 - DROP, COVER and HOLD! – Drop under sturdy furniture (table, chair, desk), protect your head, hold on to furniture.
 - After shaking – Count to 60 seconds to allow time for objects to fall before you move around.
 - Check for unstable objects above and around you.
 - Evacuate immediately if you smell gas.
 - Know location of shutoff valves for water, gas and electricity.
 - If water supply stops: don't flush toilet (tape the handle to prevent flushing) – you have emergency supply of water in your toilet tank; add 9 drops of bleach, to keep it from growing bacteria.
 - Anticipate aftershocks.
 - Listen to radio or watch local TV for emergency instructions.

Additional information and resources:

Provincial Emergency Program:

www.pep.bc.ca/hazard_preparedness/hazard_preparedness.html

West End Residents Association – Emergency Preparedness Program:

www.wera.bc.ca/emergency

Public Safety Canada:

www.GetPrepared.ca

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