



- ▶ To protect your house from shallow flooding, add waterproof veneer to the exterior walls and seal all openings.

Before An Earthquake

- ▶ Brace overhead light fixtures.
- ▶ Repair any defective electrical or gas connections.
- ▶ Secure your water heater by strapping it to wall studs or bolting it to the floor (this can prevent a possible gas leak and provide a convenient source of clean water after an earthquake).
- ▶ Repair cracks in foundations or ceilings.
- ▶ Bolt your house to its foundation.

Before a Wildfire

- ▶ Install smoke detectors on every level of your house, in every bedroom, and in hallways leading to bedrooms.
- ▶ Use fire-resistant materials when building or renovating. Most importantly, use tile or flame-retardant shingles on your roof.
- ▶ Keep vegetation, yard debris, and any other combustible materials at least 30 feet away from your house.
- ▶ Plant trees away from your house at a distance greater than their mature height. If you do have trees close to your home, trim them to a height of 8 to 10 feet and keep them free of dead or dying wood.
- ▶ Use stone walls, swimming pools, or patios to create a shield safety zone between vegetation and your house.
- ▶ Avoid planting shrubs near your house. Instead, try alternatives like a fountain or rock garden.
- ▶ Clear rain gutters of dead limbs, needles, and other debris.

SUPPORT BUILDING SAFETY!

For more information about building codes and local requirements, contact your local building department below:

City of Baytown
Building Services
2401 Market St.
Baytown, TX 77520
(281) 420-6537

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*Setting the Standard
for Building Safety™*

Headquarters
5203 Leesburg Pike, Suite 600, Falls Church, Virginia 22041
(703) 931-4533

Birmingham District Office
(205) 591-1853

Chicago District Office
(708) 799-2300

Los Angeles District Office
(562) 699-0541



Safety First

Disaster Preparedness Tips for Your Home and Family



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Communication Plan

During an emergency, it is usually easier to make long distance calls, so choose an out-of-state relative to be your family's "communication center." Be sure that each member of your family knows the name and phone number for this person in case you are separated. By having everyone call one central person, it will be easier for you to check on each other and reunite after a disaster.

Emergency Supply Kit

Whether you are preparing for an earthquake, tornado, hurricane, flood or wildfire, you will need the following basic items in your kit:

- ▶ battery-operated radio and extra batteries
- ▶ flashlight and extra batteries
- ▶ battery-operated lantern and extra batteries
- ▶ first aid kit and manual
- ▶ blankets
- ▶ canned food
- ▶ hand-operated can opener
- ▶ water (one gallon per person per day)
- ▶ durable shoes
- ▶ essential medications
- ▶ cash and credit cards
- ▶ basic tools (wrench, hammer)
- ▶ utility gloves

Place all items in a sturdy, closed container outside your home where it can be easily located. Restock food and water twice a year.



Pet Supply Kit

An emergency kit for your furry friends should include:

- ▶ food and treats
- ▶ bowl
- ▶ name and phone number of your veterinarian
- ▶ toys
- ▶ bed or blanket just for them
- ▶ water
- ▶ medication and medical records
- ▶ leash
- ▶ recent photos in case your pet is lost



Remember that after a disaster, pets can be scared and may behave unusually. Keep a pet carrier close by in case you need to prevent your pet from escaping.

Enlist a neighbor to look after your pet in case you are not home when a disaster hits. Provide them with the name and phone number of your veterinarian, as well as a contact number for you.

Disaster Preparedness