

BEEN IMPACTED BY AN **EARTHQUAKE**—

WHAT'S NEXT?



The immediate aftermath of an earthquake can be overwhelming and knowing where to turn is difficult. **Atlas Insurance Agency, Inc. is here to help.** The following guidance outlines some need-to-know information to help you navigate recovery.

Insurance Tips

- Contact your insurance provider immediately to begin the claims process. Note any filing deadlines or required documentation and inquire about coverage for aftershocks.
- Discuss temporary relocation coverage and cash advances for living expenses. Maintain a record of expenses incurred (e.g., hotel bills and pet boarding) and keep receipts.
- Avoid making permanent home repairs before checking with your insurer first.
- Itemize damaged possessions, remembering those in garages, vehicles and backyards. Take photos where possible. Avoid discarding nonhazardous items until an insurance representative has assessed them for damage.
- Meet with your loss adjuster to discuss the next steps.
- Wear sturdy shoes, gloves and other protective clothing to protect yourself from broken glass, debris and contaminated floodwater.
- Expect items to fall when you open closet or cupboard doors.
- Stay alert for aftershocks and be ready to “drop, cover and hold on.” Once the shaking has stopped, go inland or to higher ground if you live in an area vulnerable to tsunamis.

Earthquake Alerts

- United States Geological Survey Earthquake Notification Service:
<https://earthquake.usgs.gov/ens/>

Disaster Assistance Recovery Resources

- American Red Cross: 1-800-733-2767 or <https://www.redcross.org/find-your-local-chapter.html>
- Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA): 1-800-621-3362 or <https://www.fema.gov/>
- Salvation Army: 1-800-725-2769 or <https://www.salvationarmyusa.org/usn/>
- Disaster Distress Helpline: 1-800-985-5990 or <https://www.samhsa.gov/find-help/helplines/disaster-distress-helpline>

Personal Safety Guidance

- Don't return home until the authorities deem it safe to do so.
- Assess your home's walls, roof and foundation for cracks and structural damage. If you identify damage, ask an inspector to assess your home before re-entering.
- Stay clear of loose power lines and report concerns to your utility provider.

Knowing where to go for help and what to tackle first can be challenging in the aftermath of an earthquake. Atlas Insurance Agency, Inc. can guide you through recovery actions, streamline the insurance process, and help you and your family regain some normalcy. Contact us today to find out more.