

EMERGENCY CASH AND IMPORTANT DOCUMENTS

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.

Be sure you also include plenty of change to call your out-of-state contact from a public phone. (Public phone lines are among the first to be restored after a disaster.) You can also use your calling card to make the call.

You'll also need insurance policies, birth certificates and other vital records after a damaging earthquake or another disaster. Take steps NOW to assemble and protect them.

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.

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:

- 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 will facilitate insurance claims)
- Wills
- Health history, allergies, blood types
- Recent photos of family members for identification purposes