

EARTHQUAKES

A recent article in the [New Yorker magazine](#) has generated significant and important community discussion about the next large earthquake in the Pacific Northwest, and what it might mean for residents across the greater Seattle region. To the right is a diagram of the Cascadia Subduction Zone and the large area that would be affected by “slippage” of this fault line.

The City's standing goal is to be prepared to respond and recover from any hazard as safely and quickly as possible. Apart from the City's preparations, however, it is important that every resident be prepared to take care of himself or herself, and also their neighbors, for **10 days** after a very large earthquake; this is due to the potential widespread damage that is expected to infrastructure such as bridges, the electrical grid, the water supply, etc.



Ways You Can Prepare Now

- **[Make a plan](#)** for how you will communicate with your family and where you will meet if separated. Practice your plan at least annually.
- **[Build emergency kits](#)** for your home and vehicle. If finances are tight, start small and add supplies as you are able; or band together with a neighbor to share resources.
- **[Help each other](#)** by knowing your neighbors, their special needs and what community resources are available.

During an Earthquake

When the ground begins to shake: **[Drop, Cover and Hold On](#)** until the shaking stops. Aftershocks are likely to follow, so be prepared to do this multiple times.

Information from Ready.gov

Now is the time to prepare! Check out the [Ready.gov website](#) to learn what to do before, during and after an earthquake.