



FRANKLIN HILLS RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION

BE PREPARED IN 2023

INTERESTED IN A NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTION THAT DOESN'T INVOLVE LOSING WEIGHT? Here's one that may be much more critical to your health. . . in fact, a matter of life or death.

Join your FHRA neighbors and resolve to start 2023 by ***being prepared***.

The first hour after a disaster is the most important time to save lives, reduce injuries, and limit property damage. Because LA has nearly 4 million residents, during a major emergency, first responders may not be there during that critical first hour. Often your neighbors will be the first one to help.

An easy first step is to read the Q&A below for answers to your most pressing questions.

If that whets your appetite for more, check out the resources available on the [Ready Your Los Angeles Neighborhood](#) (RYLAN) site. This city-wide program provides tools and workshops to communicate with neighbors, help your family, and provide aid to others.

If you'd like to help share RYLAN to the nearly 2,000 households in Franklin Hills, contact [Shawn Sites](#). You can learn more about becoming a RYLAN block captain, hosting a workshop, participating in training and/or many other ways to support this effort.

Because we can't always predict when disaster will strike, but we can be prepared for when it does!

Common Preparedness Questions

Q: ***I've heard there is an app that can warn you of an impending earthquake several seconds before we feel it. True?***

A. Yes! The free [MyShake app](#) developed by Berkeley is now "live" for California, Oregon, and Washington. See how [MyShake warned 3 million people](#) seconds before the 6.4M quake in Humboldt County last month.

Q: ***I know about Amber Alerts, but will someone alert me of other kinds of major threats and disasters?***

A. Yes. The L.A. County Office of Emergency Management has a notification system called [Alert LA County](#). Register your name and phone to receive these life-saving messages.

Q. A quake happens in the middle of the night. What should I do?

A. As always: DROP, COVER, HOLD ON. Expect glass breakage, so have slippers or shoes at your bedside. The largest number of injuries during the 1994 Northridge earthquake were cut feet.

Q. I want to make an earthquake preparedness kit for my house or apartment. What should go in it?

A. Some excellent general advice from FEMA [can be found here](#). In general, have water and food for several days, first aid supplies and warm clothing.

Q. We're making a "family plan" for an earthquake. What should we think about?

A. FEMA has an [excellent guide for your discussion here](#). Have a plan if everyone is away from home when the quake happens. Know how you will reunify after the quake.

Q. I've hear cell phones may not work well after an earthquake. What's some advice on cell phones after a quake?

A. Conserve your battery and cell bandwidth. In our county of 10 million people, most everyone will use their phone at the same time, overwhelming the cell system. Use short texts. Do not stream video. Some families agree to only contact family members "on the hour" to allow you to turn off the phone to save battery. Finally, think about how you will communicate if the cell system goes down.

Q. What are the closest hospitals to the Franklin Hills?

A. Three of the largest hospitals in LA County are about a mile away at Sunset and Vermont: Kaiser Permanente L.A. Medical Center, Children's Hospital of Los Angeles and Hollywood Presbyterian Medical Center. All three hospitals have large portions of their buildings hardened to withstand an 8.0M earthquake.

Q. I hear fire engines on my block. Where can I find out what's happening?

A. LAFD has a robust public outreach program, and they want you to know of their fine work. Dispatches can be [tracked here in real time](#). You can also try the LAFD Twitter feed @LAFD, and apps like [Pulse Point](#) and [Everbridge](#).

Q. I just felt a little earthquake. How can I find out where it was and how big I was?

A. The US Geological Survey, USGS, maintains thousands of seismic monitors across the globe which instantly auto-track location and intensity in real time. [Find it here.](#)
In our quake-prone SoCal, it's smart to bookmark the USGS Quake Map so you can see it quickly. An iOS app called ["QuakeFeed"](#) gives you configurable real-time data from the USGS and alarms based on magnitude or region. But be careful with settings. If you set it to give you an alarm for minor shakers of 1.0M or 2.0M, you'll get alarms continually. It's eye-opening to know just how much movement there is all the time.

.....