HOW TO SURVIVE EARTHQUAKES AND TSUNAMIS IN NORTHERN CALIFORNIA

MINIMIZE FINANCIAL HARDSHIP

• Organize important documents in a “Grab and Go” Bag - include copies of identification, marriage/birth certificates, insurance cards, contact information and photos of your belongings.

Consider earthquake or flood insurance to cover losses from shaking damage or tsunami flooding.

IDENTIFY POTENTIAL WEAKNESSES AND BEGIN TO FIX THEM

STRENGTHEN YOUR HOME

Common building problems

Buildings are designed to withstand the downward pull of gravity, yet earthquakes shake a building in all directions. How well will your building withstand strong ground shaking? Go to earthquakecountry.org for detailed information on how to fix these and other problems.

Inadequate foundations

This house in Petrolia slid off its foundation in the 1992 Cape Mendocino earthquake

Unbraced cripple walls

Cripple walls in this house failed in the 1992 Cape Mendocino earthquake

Soft first stories

The garage level of this apartment complex was weaker than the rest of the building and collapsed in the 1994 Northridge earthquake.

Brick chimneys

This Eureka chimney twisted and almost collapsed in an earthquake in 1954.