

EARTHQUAKE



This fact sheet contains information on suggested actions to perform before, during and after an earthquake. It also contains information about warnings, emergency contacts and general information to consider when writing your emergency management plan.

Earthquake warnings

There is no accepted method to predict earthquakes.

Emergency contacts

Contact	Number
Life-threatening emergency (police, fire, ambulance)	000 (Triple Zero)
State Emergency Service (SES)	132 500
Earthquake Information Line	1800 655 739

Important information about earthquakes

Once an earthquake starts, there is little you can do to alert park occupants. Ensure that you keep yourself safe and are aware of where your emergency kit is located.

Be aware that an earthquake may be a trigger for other hazards such as gas leaks, landslides, power failure, tsunami or water contamination. Aftershocks can also occur and cause further damage. If your caravan park is located near a coastline, locate your tsunami action plan as earthquakes can trigger tsunami. In this case, move occupants to higher ground as soon as possible.

If you would like to know more information about earthquakes or if you need to report an earthquake, visit the Geoscience Australia earthquake page at www.ga.gov.au/earthquake.

Action plan for earthquakes

There is currently no accepted method to predict earthquakes. Keep in mind that large earthquakes may have aftershocks.

In the event of an earthquake, it is vital that you undertake preparedness actions such as:

- Prepare an emergency kit which includes a battery powered radio, spare batteries, a torch, first aid kit and a copy of your emergency management plan.
- Check currency and relevance of insurance.
- Ensure permanent outdoor furniture is secured or can be easily secured.
- Monitor trees for dangerous branches and remove when necessary.

These actions may be vital in the event of an earthquake. To find out how to stay safe during an earthquake, visit www.ses.vic.gov.au/quakesafe.

If you believe your park has a high risk of earthquakes, you may want to advise your park occupants of how to stay safe in the event of an earthquake by having brochures available. The SES has brochures and flyers available for public use about how to stay safe in an earthquake available on the website at www.ses.vic.gov.au/quakesafe or by contacting your regional SES office.

Suggested actions to take after an earthquake

- Check for injuries among your staff and occupants. Get help if required.
- If there is a life-threatening emergency, call 000 (Triple Zero).
- Prepare for aftershocks.
- Ensure people leave damaged buildings if it is safe to do so.
- Tune into your emergency broadcasters - ABC Local Radio, commercial radio and designated community radio stations, or SKY NEWS Television.
- Locate the tsunami advice pages of your emergency management plan and stay tuned to tsunami warnings from media outlets and the SES (If you are located close to the coastline or on the beach).
- Turn off electricity, gas and water.

