

Insurance Tips for Emergency Preparedness

Oregon's Department of Consumer and Business Services issued a public information news release today that encourages Oregonians to take stock of their insurance coverage. The following main points are discussed within the article:

1. Parts of Oregon are seismically active and wet, yet the typical homeowner and renters insurance policy does not cover earthquakes or floods. Special coverage can be purchased for both, but do not wait until the last minute. Flood insurance must be purchased 30 days before coverage kicks in. You probably will be unable to purchase earthquake insurance for a period of time following a significant seismic event.
2. Earthquake insurance does not cover a loss caused by landslides, erosion, tsunami, or volcanic eruption, even if an earthquake causes them to happen. Coastal residents can get flood insurance through the National Flood Insurance Program that will protect against a tsunami. Visit www.floodsmart.gov. Landslide and erosion coverage are available through specialty programs.
3. Sewer and drain backup can flood your home and is a common cause of loss that is often excluded on homeowner insurance policies. Many companies offer optional coverage for sewer and drain backup with a special limit, usually \$5,000 to \$20,000, for a small additional premium. Consider this option and make a conscious choice before you suffer a loss. Even if you are a renter and the owner insures the damage to the building, that coverage will not extend to your personal property.

The above information came from this website:

[http:// http://csc.uoregon.edu/opdr/node/289](http://csc.uoregon.edu/opdr/node/289)