



California Earthquake Clearinghouse

Are you a Geologist? Engineer?
Earthquake Researcher?
Seismologist?
Student?

Do you collect scientific or engineering data after an earthquake?

**Join the California Earthquake Clearinghouse Today and
Help the Scientific Community Amass Critical Earthquake Data for Everyone!**

What is the California Earthquake Clearinghouse?

The Clearinghouse is a location where, after a damaging earthquake, engineers, geologists, seismologists, sociologists, economists, and other professionals who arrive in the affected area to investigate such things as ground failure, structural damage, social or financial impacts of devastation, or simply to lend a hand can become part of a larger, temporary organization (the Clearinghouse) to facilitate the gathering of information, maximize its availability, and better use the talents of those present.

The Clearinghouse's principal functions are to:

- 1) coordinate the field investigations of earth scientists, engineers, and other participating researchers;
- 2) facilitate the sharing of observations through regular meetings and the Clearinghouse website; and
- 3) notify disaster responders of any crucial observations or results.

Who Participates in Clearinghouse Activities?

The Clearinghouse membership is comprised of earth scientists, engineers, emergency managers, and other professionals representing various government agencies, universities, and private institutions. Participation is voluntary and the actual make-up of any Clearinghouse varies depending on the earthquake event. For instance, an earthquake occurring in a sparsely populated area with few structures would likely be composed of more geologists studying ground deformation than engineers looking at building damage.

Clearinghouse Meetings

The Clearinghouse holds regular meetings and exercises to build strong working relationships among participating agencies and institutions and to continually improve its operational preparedness.

The Clearinghouse Draft Operation Plan can be viewed by going to the website (www.eqclearinghouse.org/CA/) and clicking on the plan's link under "Basic Clearinghouse Information".

How Will Your Participation Benefit Others?

If you investigate post-earthquake conditions, your field observations, and information compiled by your company, agency or institution could add substantially to the critical information base needed immediately by emergency response managers and, eventually, by all interested in seismic-related phenomena and seismic safety.

But wait – there's more ...

The Clearinghouse also needs volunteer staff to support a range of functions including:

- Tracking fieldwork progress of investigators in order to minimize duplication of efforts and maximize examination of the affected area
- Distributing digital or hard copy data collection forms to facilitate systematic gathering, documentation, and dissemination of perishable field data, observations, and findings
- Compilation and dissemination of data to assist Federal and State Emergency Operations Centers, State and Federal Geologists, and other appropriate recipients.
- Data entry and display via Geographic Information System(GIS) technology
- Coordination of briefing and other meetings

This is Awesome! How do I Participate in the Clearinghouse?

Go to the Clearinghouse website:
<http://www.eqclearinghouse.org/CA/>