

2013 CORE Citywide Exercise Overview

2013 CORE Citywide Exercise: April 27, 2013 9:00 am – 12:00 noon

**The 2013 CORE Citywide Exercise objectives
for participating neighborhood groups are:**

1. Understand and perform Size-up as an essential part of safe disaster response.
2. Conduct effective Damage Assessment by CORE teams.
3. Establish effective Communications with response teams in the field.



To help you prepare for the 2013 Oakland CORE Citywide Exercise, this Exercise Skills Workshop concentrates on skills to **improve team safety** through thoughtful assessment of the risks associated with CORE neighborhood emergency response

Neighborhoods are encouraged to utilize the resources found on the CORE web site: www.oaklandcore.org.

2013 Neighborhood Exercise Guide ****New!**** Information about doing an exercise of any size & complexity in your neighborhood. Information for table-top as well as functional exercises.

2013 Citywide Exercise Plan Information specific to the 2013 Citywide Exercise including the scenario, activity ideas, flyers, and more.

2013 Citywide Exercise Incident Signs New incidents to post in the neighborhood giving details for the CORE teams to use in the simulated disaster.

Scene Safety and Scene Size-up

Every CORE team action has some inherent risk. There are effective ways to reduce the potential for injury both for your team and for those your team is assisting. By carefully assessing the situation and having a plan of action, CORE teams can proceed safely.

Size-up allows the team leader to make well considered decisions that promote CORE team safety. All CORE team operations require size-up *before initiating action and on an on-going basis*.

SIZE-UP PROCESS

**Size-up Every Situation BEFORE You Take Action
and for each damaged structure before you attempt to enter.**

Size-up is a continual data gathering process. No matter where you are or what you are about to do (suppress a small fire, rescue someone trapped in a home, control damaged utilities, or render some medical aid) approach the size-up of any situation with the following seven steps in mind.

Size-up Process Continued



1. Gather facts.

- Ask yourself what happened? What's going on?
- Are there hazards that I need to be aware of?
 - Downed wires? Gas leaks? Hazardous materials?
- How many injured people are there?
- What special tools or equipment may I need?

2. Assess the scene.

- Is the scene deemed safe? (as safe as can be in the event of a disaster)

3. Identify your resources.

- How many people do you have to work with?
- Do you have the personal protective equipment that you need to be safe?
- Do you have enough supplies to do what it is that needs to be done?
 - Do you have fire extinguishers? How many?
 - Do you have medical supplies? Tarps? Materials for splints?
 - Do you have other people that can help you?

4. Establish your priorities.

- What needs to be done first? Second? Third?
 - Are there fires to be extinguished?
 - Are there trapped people that need to be rescued?
 - Do people need medical aid?

5. Develop a plan.

- Assign people to do what needs to be done, first, second and third. Remember, the plan may change and you may need to multi-task.

6. Conduct operations.

- Suppress small fires
- Secure utilities, if needed
- Provide medical treatment and aid
- Perform search and rescue operations

7. Evaluate your progress.

- Closely monitor your operations.
 - Is situation improving or getting worse?
 - Is there anything else you can do?
 - Are team members holding up ok? Do you need more resources?
- Are you accomplishing the task?
 - If not, reassess to determine what is hampering your efforts.

Size-up is very important as your data gathering process and applies to all CORE operations.

STRUCTURAL DAMAGE ASSESSMENT

Damage Assessment is used by CORE teams in two ways:

1. Damage assessment is an integral part of the Size-up done by every CORE team.
2. Damage Assessment is also used by the Neighborhood Incident Commander to establish a clear picture of the neighborhood's situation. The Damage Assessment Team does this.



PERFORMING DAMAGE ASSESSMENT

1. When performed by the Damage Assessment Team as directed by the Neighborhood Incident Commander, Damage Assessment is a quick review of the neighborhood.

- Proceed at a walking pace through your assigned route.
- Note on the Damage Assessment form any damage seen at each address.
- Stop ONLY to save a life or to mitigate an immediate hazard such as leaking gas.

2. When performed as part of *size-up*, Damage Assessment is a detailed risk assessment activity.

- Check all **SIX sides** of the building for hazards and signs of damage:
 - Top** ----- look for electrical wires, falling debris, damaged chimney or roof
 - Locate the source of debris to determine whether there is potential for future threat.
 - Bottom** ----- look for water, debris, injured people, cracks and liquefaction
 - Water can be a lethal hazard. It can be energized by electricity, cover physical hazards such as sharp objects or holes, or contain hazardous liquids.
 - Four sides**--- look for signs of structural damage
 - Look and listen for injured persons.
 - Look for cracking around doors and at the foundation of the building.
 - Check vertical and horizontal lines, start at the top and work down.
 - Also examine the adjacent buildings.
- The perimeter of heavily damaged buildings should be checked for victims if it is safe to do so. Otherwise, secure the perimeter and stay away from the building. Shut off the utilities only if it is safe to do so.

SIGNS OF POSSIBLE STRUCTURAL DAMAGE

Most buildings that have suffered structural damage will show very distinctive outward signs. Generally buildings are built with straight horizontal and vertical lines. When a building has suffered structural damage, these straight lines can become distorted. This is a strong indication that the building's structural stability has been compromised.

Be familiar with your neighborhood so you will notice changes after an earthquake!

Look for the following:

Horizontal Lines

- Uneven window lines
- Draw an imaginary line across the tops of the windows and see if they line up.
- Uneven paint lines or siding. When looking at paint lines, determine which building has moved.
- Foundation that is not level
- Ground around the foundation may be fractured or uneven

Vertical Lines

- Any leaning
- Check all sides of the building

In looking at horizontal and vertical lines, start at the top of the building and work down. Look at doors and windows and compare the building to the one next door.

Entry ways

- Are the sidewalks or paths broken or uneven? Were they like that before the earthquake?

Large Cracks in the Exterior of the Building

- Especially around doors and entry ways
- Foundation cracks

Separation Between Buildings

- Was the separation between the buildings there before?
- Is it consistent all the way from top to bottom?
- Are other buildings in the area similar?

Liquefaction (soil that becomes watery mud from intense earthquake shaking)

- Seeping or pooling around the foundation
- Mud or water coming out of openings on the ground

Ground effects

- Fissures, sinkholes, landslides

Always be aware of other potential hazards around you!

Overhead Hazards

- Leaning buildings or walls, utility poles that could fall, trees that could fall or drop branches
- Overhanging pieces of a building fall; such as cornices, decorative work or chimneys
- Utility wires could be exposed or down; causing possible electrocution

Signs of Possible Structural Damage Continued

Ground Level Hazards

- Sharp objects such as glass, nails, broken concrete, exposed or broken rebar, slippery or uneven surfaces caused by ground movement and water leaks

Below Grade Hazards

- Contaminated atmosphere in confined spaces due to smoke or gas leaks.
- Flammable, toxic or oxygen deficient air

Flooding due to water leaks

- Drowning
- Electrocutation
- Debris under the water

DAMAGE CLASSIFICATIONS

There are three levels of structural damage:

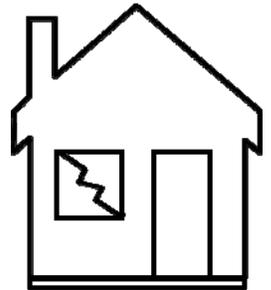
LIGHT MODERATE HEAVY

When in doubt about the condition of a building, *always use the more cautious assessment.*

**Only buildings classified as Light or Moderate Damage should be entered.
CORE teams do not enter buildings that have heavy damage.**

Light Damage Indicators

- Superficial damage
- Broken windows
- Fallen or cracked plaster
- Minor damage to contents



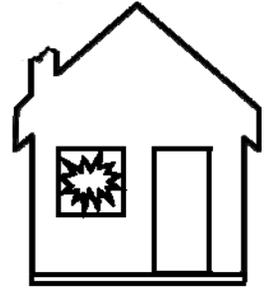
Respond to Light Damage:

1. Size-up the scene before taking any action.
2. Secure building utilities (as needed).
3. Locate, triage, and prioritize removal of victims to the designated treatment area.
4. Continue evacuation process until all injured persons have been removed and accounted for.
5. Reassess the building's structural stability and available resources before you attempt a complex rescue. Do continuous size-up!
6. Document your actions on a Status Card. Include the location of trapped (or deceased) persons that you cannot remove on the report to the Neighborhood Command Post.

Damage Classifications Continued

Moderate Damage Indicators

- More obvious damage
- Exterior decorative work is damaged or has fallen
- Large amounts of cracking or breakage is visible
- Building is not leaning (still square)
- The building is still attached to the foundation
- Significant damage to contents



Respond to Moderate Damage:

1. Size-up the scene before taking any action.
2. Secure building utilities (as needed).
3. Gather information about the location of persons inside the building before entering.
4. Enter, quickly locate and immediately evacuate the victims to a safe distance from the building.
5. Minimize the amount of time and number of team members inside. An aftershock could change this moderately damaged building into a heavily damaged building quickly – Get in & get out.
6. Document your actions on a Status Card. Include the location of trapped (or deceased) persons that you cannot remove on the report to the Neighborhood Command Post.

Heavy Damage Indicators

- Extensive general damage
- Partial or total structural collapse
- Buildings tilting or off their foundations
- Buildings that are obviously structurally unsafe



Respond to Heavy Damage:

1. **NEVER enter a heavily damaged building for any reason.**
2. Secure the building perimeter to restrict access to the building.
3. Shut off utilities *if it is safe to do so.*

Quick Tips

Continuous size-up is the best way to ensure CORE team safety.

Follow the seven size-up steps.

If unsure of the level of damage, always use the next higher level.

Light > Moderate > Heavy

Aftershocks may change a building's condition to a higher level of damage.

Reassess damage after every major aftershock.

CORE Citywide Exercise Skills Workshop – 3/16/2013

CORE DAMAGE ASSESSMENT FORM

Date _____ Time _____ Person/Team Reporting _____

Damage: L = Light, M = Moderate, H = Heavy, D = Destroyed

Hazard: W = Water, G = Gas, E = Electrical, HM = Haz-Mat

Fire: B = Burning, O = Out

	Address	Damage	Hazard	Fire	# Injured	# Trapped	# Dead	Road Open?
1								
	Comments							
2								
	Comments							
3								
	Comments							
4								
	Comments							
5								
	Comments							
6								
	Comments							
7								
	Comments							
8								
	Comments							
9								
	Comments							
10								
	Comments							

CORE STATUS CARD

Team Assignment & Report Form

Address _____

Date _____ Time _____ Team _____

Assigned Task

Utilities Checked

Gas OK Turned Off

Water OK Turned Off

Electricity OK Turned Off

Damage (circle)

Light Moderate Heavy

Comments: _____

House Searched (circle)

Exterior only Part of interior Full search

Comments: _____

Victim removed Yes No Number _____

Victim taken to First Aid Station Yes No

Comments

Return this half to the Command Post ASAP

CORE STATUS CARD

Note to Resident: Building Checked by Neighbors

Address _____

Date _____ Time _____ Team _____

Building checked by (names):

Utilities Checked

Gas OK Turned Off

Water OK Turned Off

Electricity OK Turned Off

Damage (circle)

Light Moderate Heavy

Comments: _____

House Searched (circle)

Exterior only Part of interior Full search

Comments: _____

Victim removed Yes No Number _____

Victim taken to First Aid Station Yes No

Comments

Post this half on the front of the building