

Gather supplies in case you need to evacuate

Landslides have occurred in almost every province and can cause significant damage. The term landslide describes downhill earth movements that can move slowly and cause damage gradually, or move rapidly, destroying property and taking lives suddenly and unexpectedly. Most landslides are caused by natural forces or events, such as heavy rain and snowmelt, earthquake shaking, volcanic eruptions and gravity. Landslides are typically associated with periods of heavy rainfall or rapid snowmelt and tend to worsen the effects of flooding. Areas burned by forest and brush fires are also particularly susceptible to landslides.

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Landslides can also be referred to as mudslides, debris flow, mudflow or debris avalanches.

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- Landslides generally happen in areas where they have occurred in the past. Learn about your area's landslide risk.
 - Learn about local emergency response and evacuation plans.
 - Become familiar with the land around where you live and work so that you understand your risk in different situations.
 - Watch the patterns of stormwater drainage on slopes near your home, especially where runoff water converges.
 - Debris flows and other landslides onto roadways are common during rainstorms.
 - Heavily saturated ground is very susceptible to mudflows and debris flows.
 - Be aware that, generally, landslide insurance is not available, but that debris flow damage may be covered by flood insurance policies.
 - Listen for unusual sounds that might indicate moving debris, such as trees cracking or boulders knocking together.
 - Check your home's foundation, chimney and surrounding land for damage.
 - Replant damaged ground as soon as possible because erosion caused by loss of ground cover can lead to flash flooding.