

The following piece originally appeared in **The Q News** about a year ago. As we approach the winter season, it's worth re-visiting.



### Are you experienced?

Don't get *too* excited – we're not referring to the experiences Mr. Hendrix may have been singing about.

Have you ever experienced a natural disaster? How prepared are you for one?

To learn about weather and geologic hazards in the area and how to prepare for them, follow this link:

<http://www.co.washington.or.us/EmergencyManagement/Preparedness>

You'll come away with the impression that we're lucky to have survived this long.



You'll learn, for instance, that the Oatfield Crustal Fault is just across our fence line, running through the Windermere neighborhood. And while it isn't capable of generating a "massive" earthquake, still ...it's between here and the liquor store!

The Washington County Hazards Analysis (same link) discusses the hazards that might endanger us and lists them, beginning with "most likely to succeed."

The one at the top of the list, considered most likely to endanger a Washington County resident, is not an earthquake or fire, but *a severe winter storm*.



Those here in 2008 remember the severity of such a December storm - it generated a Presidential Disaster declaration. Some

pots in the West Hills reported up to 30 inches of snow and drifts piled 6 feet high. Power was out in some areas for days.

For guidance on preparing for such a storm, visit <https://www.ready.gov/winter-weather>

Our HOA Regulations (the agreement we all have with each other) holds each of us responsible for preparing and maintaining our own balconies and homes – to prevent or minimize the impact of snow, ice and harsh weather. It's on all of us. The more prepared you are, the more help you may be able to offer a neighbor who needs it.

The Quintet's Emergency Preparedness Committee has information available about preparing for the unexpected. Printed information is available in the office.

