

## FEATURED STORY

# The Hayward Fault —

## Is It Due for a Repeat of the Powerful 1868 Earthquake?

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On October 21, 1868, a magnitude 6.8 earthquake struck the San Francisco Bay area. Although the region was sparsely populated, the quake on the Hayward Fault was one of the most destructive in California's history. The 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the 1868 earthquake, and all historical earthquake anniversaries, are opportunities to remind people that we live in earthquake country and we should all be prepared for the next big quake. U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) studies show that similar Hayward Fault quakes have repeatedly jolted the region in the past and that the fault may be ready to produce another magnitude **6.8 to 7.0 earthquake**. Such an earthquake could unexpectedly change people's lives and impact the Bay Area's infrastructure and economy, but updated building codes and retrofits, as well as planning, community training, and preparedness, will help reduce the effects of a future Hayward Fault earthquake.



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