

## Residential Green Zone Fact Sheet

Geotechnical engineers Tonkin & Taylor have assessed and mapped residential land damage caused by the devastating Canterbury earthquakes of 2010 and 2011.

The residential green zone is the 'go zone'. This means that generally there are no significant land issues in this area that prevent rebuilding based on current adopted seismic standards.

The majority of greater Christchurch properties – about 100,000 properties – are in this zone and have been given a green light to go ahead with the repair and rebuilding of their homes.

The criteria for defining areas as residential green zone are:

- No significant land issues prevent rebuilding based on current adopted seismic standards
- Land damage may be present but this can be repaired on an individual basis as part of the normal insurance process
- Insurers can continue claim settlements on repairs and rebuilds on individual properties
- The Department of Building and Housing (DBH) is preparing engineering guidelines for the repair and rebuild of houses in these areas
- Some properties may require specific engineering design to comply with the DBH guidelines
- Decisions on when to commence rebuilding or repairs should take account of ongoing seismic activity and the potential for significant aftershocks
- Some isolated properties that have severe land damage where repair costs exceed the Earthquake Commission assessed land value may be reclassified into the residential orange (hold) zone once identified

### What does this mean for me?

Property owners in the residential green zone no longer have to wait for the results of any area-wide land assessment reports by EQC or EQC's engineering consultants Tonkin & Taylor. However, ongoing insurance claim assessments are continuing.

There will be some isolated exceptions where geotechnical assessments will be required due to major land damage, but for the most part homeowners in this area can get on with rebuilding.

If you believe you have land damage in this area you should contact EQC on 0800 DAMAGE (0800 326 243).

Repair and rebuilding work should take into consideration the risk of ongoing aftershocks, so some finishing tasks such as brick, plastering, painting and driveway concrete laying should be delayed until that risk decreases.

### Where can I get more information?

Residents can visit the [www.landcheck.org.nz](http://www.landcheck.org.nz) website and enter their address to find out what zone their property has been mapped into.

Residents can also contact the Government helpline on 0800 779 997 if they are unable to access the website or if they want more information.

Further information is also available on the Canterbury Earthquake Recovery Authority (CERA)'s website [www.cera.govt.nz](http://www.cera.govt.nz).