A resilient neighbourhood is one that’s prepared for anything – from a power outage to an earthquake. A resilient neighbourhood should be able to respond and recover quickly from an emergency.

How do you know if you have one?

**Hint:** If you tend to avoid your neighbours, you probably don’t have one!

- You know the names of your three–four closest neighbours.
- You have each other’s contact details.
- You talk to your neighbours now and then.
- People wouldn’t be afraid to ask each other for help.
- You’re aware of your neighbours’ children’s names and ages.
- You know the name of your neighbour’s pet.
- Street get-togethers are part of living in your neighbourhood – you have shared interests or hobbies.
- Home-grown and home-made goods are shared among your street.
- You’ve got a shared community garden or other projects.

Why have one?

- You get to enjoy living in a safe, friendly, respectful neighbourhood.
- You get to make a difference in your local community.
- In times of loss, illness or emergency, you can help others – or be helped if you’re in need.

How do you get one?

- Start with getting to know one another. **Ask** “how are you?”
- **BBQs** and baking! Share a morning tea or a barbecue a couple of times a year.
- See what you have in common – it may be that your children are the same age, you have similar hobbies, or your pets get along.
- **Diversity** – a diverse range of cultures, skills or knowledge can make for an exciting place to live. See what everyone’s strengths are and how they can be used in times of need.

For practical ideas on getting a more resilient neighbourhood where you live, see the related fact sheets:

- Knowing your neighbours, staying in touch: 10 Step Guide
- Neighbourhood Resources Register
- Neighbourhood Support: How to start your own group.