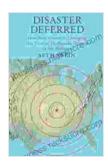
# How New Science Is Changing Our View Of Earthquake Hazards In The Midwest

For decades, scientists have known that the Midwest is not immune to earthquakes. But it wasn't until recently that they began to understand the full extent of the seismic hazard in the region. Thanks to new research, we now know that the Midwest is home to a number of faults that are capable of producing large earthquakes.



### Disaster Deferred: How New Science Is Changing Our View of Earthquake Hazards in the Midwest by Seth Stein

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ 4.4 out of 5 Language : English File size : 10374 KB Text-to-Speech : Enabled Screen Reader : Supported Enhanced typesetting: Enabled Word Wise : Enabled Print length : 298 pages Lending : Enabled



These faults have been quiet for centuries, but they could rupture at any time, causing widespread damage and loss of life. In fact, a recent study by the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) found that the Midwest has a 10% chance of experiencing a major earthquake in the next 50 years.

This is a significant risk, and it's one that we need to take seriously. The Midwest is home to some of the largest cities in the country, including

Chicago, St. Louis, and Indianapolis. A major earthquake in any of these cities could have devastating consequences.

So what can we do to prepare for the possibility of a major earthquake in the Midwest? There are a number of things that we can do, including:

- Educating ourselves about earthquake hazards
- Developing earthquake preparedness plans
- Building earthquake-resistant structures
- Stockpiling emergency supplies

By taking these steps, we can help to reduce the risk of damage and loss of life in the event of a major earthquake in the Midwest.

#### What are the earthquake hazards in the Midwest?

The Midwest is home to a number of earthquake hazards, including:

- Faults: The Midwest is home to a number of faults that are capable of producing large earthquakes. These faults include the New Madrid Seismic Zone, the Wabash Valley Seismic Zone, and the Reelfoot Rift.
- Ground shaking: Ground shaking is the most common earthquake hazard. It can cause buildings to collapse, bridges to fall, and roads to buckle.
- Liquefaction: Liquefaction occurs when the ground becomes so saturated with water that it loses its strength and begins to behave like a liquid. This can cause buildings to sink and roads to collapse.

 Landslides: Landslides can be triggered by earthquakes. They can block roads, damage infrastructure, and destroy homes.

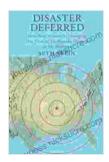
#### What can we do to prepare for an earthquake in the Midwest?

There are a number of things that we can do to prepare for an earthquake in the Midwest, including:

- Educating ourselves about earthquake hazards: The first step to preparing for an earthquake is to educate ourselves about the hazards. This includes understanding the different types of earthquake hazards, the risks associated with them, and the steps that we can take to reduce our risk.
- Developing earthquake preparedness plans: Once we have a good understanding of the earthquake hazards in our area, we can develop earthquake preparedness plans. These plans should include information on what to do before, during, and after an earthquake.
- Building earthquake-resistant structures: One of the best ways to reduce the risk of damage and loss of life in an earthquake is to build earthquake-resistant structures. This includes using earthquakeresistant building materials and techniques.
- Stockpiling emergency supplies: In the event of an earthquake, we may not have access to food, water, or other essential supplies. That's why it's important to stockpile emergency supplies in advance.

By taking these steps, we can help to reduce the risk of damage and loss of life in the event of a major earthquake in the Midwest.

Earthquakes are a serious threat to the Midwest, but we can take steps to prepare for them. By educating ourselves about earthquake hazards, developing earthquake preparedness plans, building earthquake-resistant structures, and stockpiling emergency supplies, we can help to reduce the risk of damage and loss of life.



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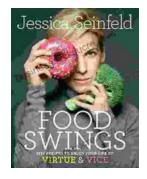
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