

Home buyer's project #2—Mass Wasting: Landslides, rock falls, and soil creep

Purpose

This project will acquaint you with a common natural hazard facing home owners in mountainous areas.

Assignment

Like all of the home buyer's projects, this one should be completed in two steps. First, you need to answer the following questions so that you can assess the potential hazard.

- What is mass wasting and why does it occur?
- In what types of areas is mass wasting likely to occur, and what factors increase the risk of mass wasting?
- How can you assess the risk of mass wasting, and what are the signs that it is occurring or may occur in an area?

Second, you need to determine if homes at the four addresses listed below are potentially at risk from mass wasting. Since you can't go to the areas in person, the best tools available are Google Maps and Google Earth. You can use both the terrain feature in Google Maps and Google Earth to see topography, and you may be able to use the street-view feature in Google Maps to look at the area.

- A. 2400 Treehouse Drive, Steamboat Springs, Colorado
- B. 5368 Harter Lane, La Cañada Flintridge, California
- C. 24 Ocean View Road, Kennebunk, Maine
- D. 300 Eagle Crest Road, Camano Island, WA

What to turn in

750–800-word paper that integrates your results. See "Notes on what I expect for the home buyer's projects" for detailed instructions.