

## Sinkhole and Mine subsidence Insurance

## Does my home insurance policy cover either of these?

General, No. A standard home insurance policy does not provide coverage if your home is damaged due to a sinkhole or due to a mine shaft under your property. Some states require their insurance policies to offer this as an option. If you live in Illinois you can purchase mine subsidence insurance very reasonably, \$100 to \$250 annually should cover most homes. In Florida you can purchase coverage should a sinkhole open up under your home. If you are interested in either, please advise your TRICOR Insurance agent and we will see if it is an option available either in your policy or with another of our standard market companies. We always can, "usually at a higher price", go to a specialized market if needed.

## Are there claim problems if I have a loss and have this kind of insurance?

Often, YES. If you have a crack in your foundation, can you prove it is from a sinkhole or from an underground mine? If your home has settled gradually over many years and one side is two inches lower than the other, is this from either and can you prove it? Often these claims don't occur instantly and the loss occurs over time.

Most home insurance policies exclude almost every kind of earth shifting or cracking or earth sinking and sometimes the problem is with the site preparation or quality of materials or an engineering/ design issue. Our point here is that even if you can purchase this coverage, the policy and its wording must be read carefully.

In some instances we can go outside our own companies to the specialized market and find this coverage there or use a difference in conditions policy with even broader protection. These sources often will have higher deductibles, and specialized underwriting.

## If I want to add sinkhole or mine subsidence insurance to my home insurance policy, how should I proceed?

Call us at 1-877-468-7426 or <u>chat with us</u>, <u>email us</u> or reach out to a <u>TRICOR agent</u>. If the insurance company you have doesn't have a program and the state doesn't sponsor one either then obtaining this coverage may be difficult and expensive.