

MEMO from FCEM&HS

Franklin County Emergency Management and Homeland Security

JOIN IN THE GREAT CENTRAL U.S. SHAKEOUT EARTHQUAKE DRILL OCTOBER 16TH



To Your Organization's Safety Officer:

You are invited to join millions of people who will [Drop, Cover, and Hold On](#) at 10:16 a.m. on Thursday, October 16, 2014 in the 2014 *Great Central U.S. ShakeOut!* Last year more than 12.5 million people were registered in ShakeOut drills worldwide. Participating is a great way for your family or organization to be prepared to survive and recover quickly from big earthquakes.

Major earthquakes may happen anywhere you work, live or travel in the Central U.S. The ShakeOut is a chance to practice how to protect ourselves and for everyone to become prepared. The goal is to prevent emergencies from becoming disasters.

How to participate in the ShakeOut Earthquake Drill:

- Register at www.ShakeOut.org/centralus/register to be counted in the ShakeOut Drill and get email updates.
- Download a Drill Broadcast recording from www.ShakeOut.org/drill/broadcast
- Have a two-minute "Drop, Cover, and Hold On" drill at 10:16 a.m. on October 16, 2014.
- You may also want to coordinate an exercise of your emergency plan.
- Discuss what you learned and make improvements.

PREPAREDNESS TIPS

Get Prepared for Earthquakes

- Check your emergency supplies and equipment; make sure they are accessible and functional.
- Inspect your home/business or items that might fall and cause injury, and secure them.
- Create and practice a disaster emergency plan.
- Know first aid and response training.

[Click here](#) to learn more about earthquakes in Ohio.

Get Involved

- On October 16, 2014 at 10:16 a.m. [Drop, Cover, and Hold On](#): **Drop** to the ground, take **Cover** under a table or desk, and **Hold On** to it as if a major earthquake were happening (stay down for at least 60 seconds). Practice now so you will immediately protect yourself during earthquakes!
- While still under the table, or wherever you are, look around and imagine what would happen in a major earthquake. What would fall on you or others? What would be damaged? What would life be like after? *What will you do before the actual earthquake happens to reduce losses and quickly recover?*
- Finally, practice what your community will do after the shaking stops.
- A great step for after your "Drop, Cover, and Hold On" drill is to practice how to communicate with family, friends, and co-workers. Texting first before making phone calls is highly recommended.



"Drop, Cover and Hold On" is the appropriate action to reduce injury and death during earthquakes. The purpose of "Drop, Cover, and Hold On" is for people to quickly protect themselves from falling debris and other nonstructural hazards.



Why is a "Drop, Cover, and Hold On" drill important? As with anything, to act quickly you must practice often. You may only have seconds to protect yourself in an earthquake before strong shaking knocks you down or something falls on you.

FCEM&HS

Michael R. Pannell, Director
5300 Strawberry Farms Blvd.
Columbus, OH 43230-1049
Phone 614-794-0213
Fax 614-882-3209

On the Web: www.fcemhs.org
Follow us on Twitter: @fcemhs

Like us on Facebook: www/facebook.com/fcemhs

