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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: Great Arizona Shakeout - 10:18 a.m. on October 18, 2012

15 October 2012

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At 10:18 am on Thursday, October 18, more than 35,000 school children in hundreds of classrooms across Arizona, will drop, cover, and hold on during Arizona's first statewide [Great Arizona Shakeout](#) earthquake preparedness drill. They will be joined by thousands more in state and federal offices, tribal communities, civic groups, and businesses.

Each year hundreds of earthquakes occur in Arizona. Most go unfelt, but the potential for rare, life-threatening, large magnitude earthquakes exists. Arizona's largest earthquakes in 2011, of magnitude 3.7 and 3.6, occurred near Clarkdale in central Arizona. Faults in Arizona, surrounding states and Mexico are capable of damaging earthquakes up to magnitude 7.5 that could cause strong ground shaking across Arizona.

During an earthquake the greatest immediate danger in most homes and buildings is from flying or falling items - ceiling tiles, furniture, pictures, lights, mirrors, ceiling fans, and other items. Lessons learned from the 2-minute ShakeOut "Drop, Cover and Hold On" exercise can protect you, your family or students from serious injury.

ShakeOut drills inform people at school, work and home how to prepare for and survive the next damaging earthquake.

- ✓ **Drop** to the ground;
- ✓ **Take Cover** under a sturdy table or desk if possible and protect your head and neck;
- ✓ **Hold On** until the shaking stops.

"We don't often get advance notice before disaster strikes, so the opportunity for residents to drill in the Great Arizona Shakeout is invaluable," Lou Trammell, director of the Arizona Division of Emergency Management, said. "It's also a great way for parents to participate in emergency preparedness with their kids."

Participating in ShakeOut is free and open to the public. You, your family, or school can take part in the Great Arizona Shakeout by enrolling online at www.shakeout.org/arizona/. Once registered, you will receive information on how to plan your drill and how to engage your community.

Arizona joins California, Idaho, Nevada, Oregon, Utah and Washington in hosting ShakeOut events on October 18, 2012. In the Western U.S., more than ten million people are expected to participate this fall.

For additional information on preparing for, surviving, and recovering from an earthquake, see "[Arizona is Earthquake Country](#)", a 44-page online publication that includes a detailed seven-step earthquake safety guide.

Partners in the Great Arizona Shakeout 2012 include the Arizona Geological Survey, Arizona Division of Emergency Management, Arizona County Emergency Manager's Offices, Arizona Emergency Information Network, Arizona Red Cross, and the Federal Emergency Management Agency.

Enroll today in Arizona ShakeOut for a safer Arizona tomorrow. Extensive information is available for the public and media at <http://www.shakeout.org/arizona/>.

Press package

[AZGS youtube](#) channel with earthquake and fault videos, includes 90-second, time-lapse video, Earthquakes in Arizona 1852-2011.

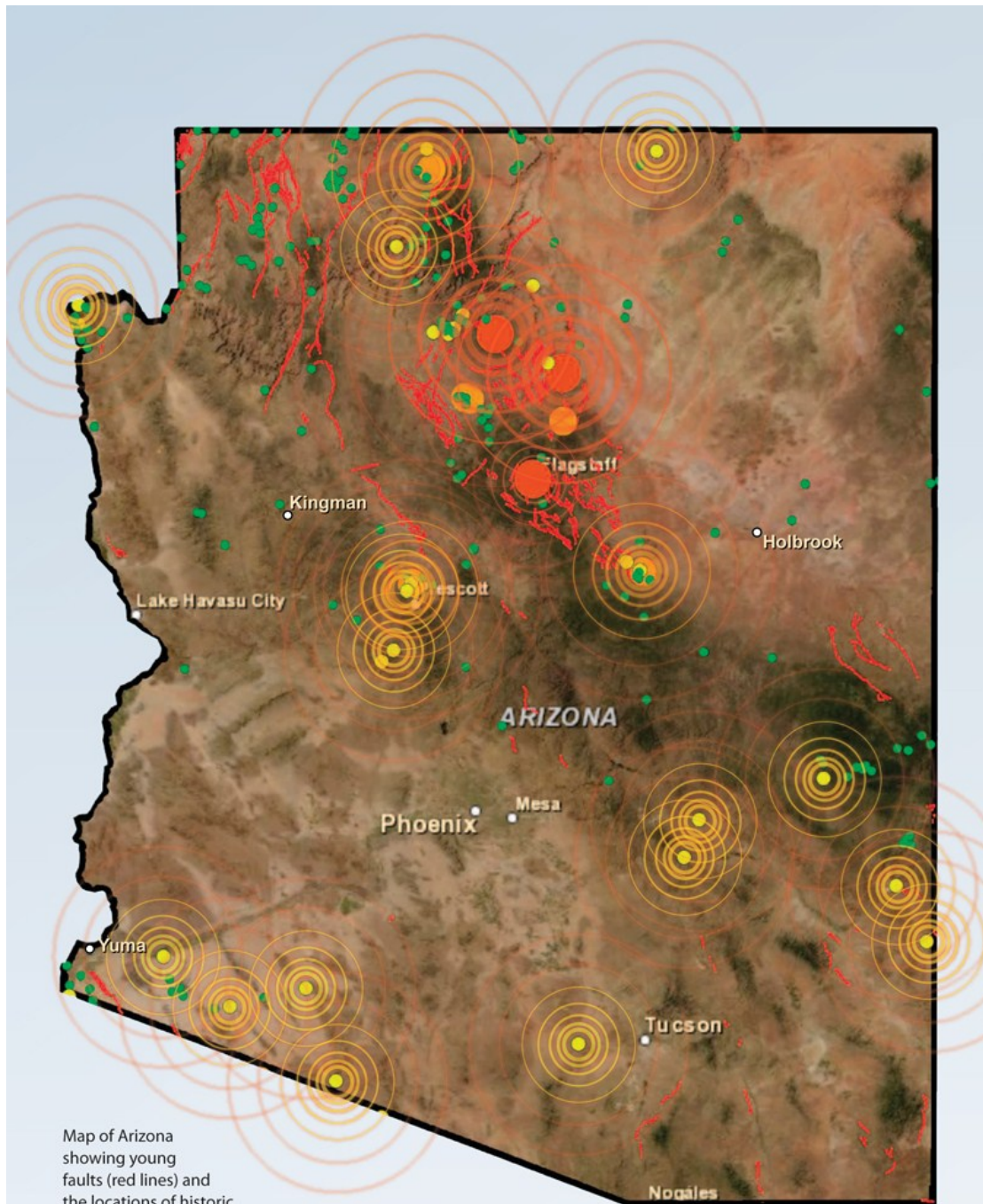
[Arizona is Earthquake Country](#) – earthquake primer, 44 pages with maps, pictures and illustrations (8.5 Mb)

Attached images: "Drop, Cover and Hold on"; Major faults and earthquake epicenter map

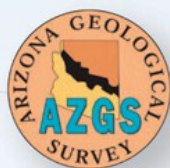
Protect Yourself During Earthquakes!



www.dropcoverholdon.org



Map of Arizona showing young faults (red lines) and the locations of historic (1852 to 2011) moderate to large magnitude earthquake epicenters in Arizona. In order of increasing magnitude, green dots represent M3.0-M3.9, yellow dots M4.0-M4.9, orange dots M5.0-M5.9, and red dots M6.0-M6.2. Not shown is the M7.4 earthquake that occurred in Sonora, Mexico, about 40 miles south of Douglas on May 3rd 1887.



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