

Hoosiers Lead the Way in Largest Midwest Earthquake Drill Ever

INDIANAPOLIS – The Great Central U.S. Shakeout, an earthquake drill in April involving 11 states, has surpassed the 1 million mark for registered participants. More than 320,000 of those are from Indiana, more than any other state.

To sign up and find out more, go to www.in.gov/dhs/shakeout.htm.

This is the largest simultaneous earthquake drill ever held in Indiana or on a regional basis.

More people are signing up every day to take part in the central U.S. earthquake drill where participants will simultaneously practice the recommended earthquake safety actions – Drop, Cover and Hold-On:

- **DROP** to the ground
- Take **COVER** by getting under a sturdy desk or table, and
- **HOLD-ON** to it until the shaking stops

The Great Central U.S. ShakeOut will be held in Indiana at 10:15 a.m. EDT (9:15 a.m. CDT) on April 19, 2011 (April 28 in other states).

The recent M9.0 earthquake and resulting tsunami in Japan serves as a reminder that earthquakes can happen any time, and can have devastating and far-reaching effects.

With scientists estimating that there is a high probability of a damaging earthquake occurring in the central U.S. within the next 50 years, the Great Central U.S. ShakeOut is designed to help individuals and communities in the region get ready for damaging earthquakes, practice how to protect themselves, and learn how to prevent disasters from becoming catastrophes.

This Drop, Cover and Hold-On drill is free and open to the general public, and will take place in communities throughout Alabama, Arkansas, Georgia, Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky, Mississippi, Missouri, Oklahoma, South Carolina and Tennessee.

The Indiana Department of Homeland Security has partnered with the Indiana Department of Education and Indiana Geological Survey to inform Hoosiers about the drill and encourage everyone, including schools, businesses and communities, to pledge their participation at www.shakeout.org/centralus or www.in.gov/dhs/shakeout.htm. More information about the ShakeOut, and earthquake preparedness resources are available on these websites as well.

The Great Central U.S. ShakeOut is being coordinated by the Central US Earthquake Consortium and its member and associate states, the Federal Emergency Management Agency, the U.S. Geological Survey and dozens of other partners.

Leadership for a Safe and Secure Indiana

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