



# News Release

Office of the Adjutant General  
2779 Fish Hatchery Road  
West Columbia, S.C. 29172

**SOUTH CAROLINA EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT DIVISION**  
Contact: Joe Farmer and Derrec Becker Phone: 803-737-8500 Fax: 803-737-8570

## South Carolina Events for the Great ShakeOut

**COLUMBIA, S.C. (Wednesday, April 27, 2011)** - On Thursday, April 28, 2011, almost 300,000 people in South Carolina will be part of three million participants in one of the largest earthquake drills ever conducted across the United States.

At 10:15 tomorrow morning, wherever you are at that moment—at home, at work, at school, anywhere—you should Drop, Cover, and Hold On as if there were a major earthquake occurring at that very moment and stay in the position for at least 60 seconds. The signal to begin the drill will be transmitted via NOAA Weather radio and broadcast media in your area.

The Great ShakeOut drill is open to everyone in South Carolina. To register, go to [www.shakeout.org/centralus](http://www.shakeout.org/centralus). Be sure to include the total number of people taking part in the drill with you.

There are several events taking place around South Carolina that are open to the media:

### **Schools who have registered**

-All schools who've registered are listed on the shakeout website under our state; [http://www.shakeout.org/centralus/state\\_participants.php?state=SC](http://www.shakeout.org/centralus/state_participants.php?state=SC), you will have to follow standard procedures for access to the schools.

### Midlands Market:

#### **Great ShakeOut South Carolina Press Conference - SC State Museum, 10:00 a.m**

-SCEMD and State Museum Staff will be joined in the Stringer Discovery Center (first floor of the Museum) by a youth group from LaPetite Academy to conduct the drill at 10:15 followed by media availability immediately after.

Contact: Derrec Becker, 803-737-8500

### Upstate, GSP Market:

#### **Pickens County EOC**

The Pickens County EOC will be activated for other training but they will show the slides and at exactly 10:15, they will Drop, Cover and Hold On. Earthquake Awareness will be the focal point of the day.

Contact: Denise Kwiatek, EM Coordinator, 864-898-5945

### **Anderson County**

-Anderson County will alert the public to the drill by activating the warning sirens Thursday morning.

Contact: Anita Donley, Anderson County Sheriff's Office 864-260-4646

**MORE, MORE MORE...**

Charlotte Market:

**York County EOC**

-York County Emergency Management is taking part in a county-wide health fair today. Every employee that brings them the ShakeOut registration confirmation will receive a prize. EOC Staff are also going to have a computer set up to assist people with registering.

Contact: York County Emergency Operations, 803-326-2300

The Coastal Markets:

**Georgetown County**

- All county departments to take part in the drill. Georgetown County will be using the county alert telephone system to announcement the drill to all county staff. This will be the first time they've used this system to alert county employees.

Contact: Sam Hodge, Georgetown County Emergency Management Director, 843-545-3273

**South Carolina Earthquake Information:**

- Our state experiences approximately 10 to 20 earthquakes a year according to Geologists with the College of Charleston.
- The epicenter of the largest earthquake ever to occur along the eastern United States seaboard was just outside of Charleston on August 31, 1886. The 7.3 magnitude quake devastated the region and was felt from Chicago, Il, to Cuba.
- According to a study commissioned by SCEMD, an earthquake of similar magnitude would result in tremendous loss of life, severe property damage and extreme economic loss. Results of the study are listed in the *South Carolina Earthquake Guide*, link provided below.
- *The Great Shakeout is being conducted by the Central United States Earthquake Consortium (CUSEC). South Carolina is an associate member of CUSEC.*

**Additional Resources**

- An SCEMD produced video showing how families can prepare for an earthquake: [www.youtube.com/thescemd](http://www.youtube.com/thescemd).
- SCEMD's homepage: [www.scmd.org](http://www.scmd.org)
- *The South Carolina Earthquake Guide*: [http://scemd.org/News/publications/EQ%20Guide%202008/Cover\\_EQ\\_08.html](http://scemd.org/News/publications/EQ%20Guide%202008/Cover_EQ_08.html)
- SCEMD's Facebook page: [www.facebook.com/SCEMD](http://www.facebook.com/SCEMD)
- SCEMD's Twitter Feed: [www.twitter.com/EMDSC](http://www.twitter.com/EMDSC)
- ShakeOut Frequently Asked Question page <http://www.shakeout.org/centralus/faq/index.html>

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**DRILL BROADCAST INFORMATION**

All participating media are encouraged to register on the ShakeOut site for the latest information. Audio and Video "Drill Broadcast" recordings customized for Central US are provided at this link: <http://www.shakeout.org/centralus/drill/broadcast/index.html>, with instructions and (soon) earthquake sound effects to play during your Drop, Cover, Hold On drill. Also included will be sound effects with no narration. Using these resources is not required but may make your drill more interesting and educational. These recordings are suitable for use for earthquake drills anytime (with proper introduction).