



MEDIA ADVISORY

Emergency Management Agency

Ohio Emergency Management Agency • Nancy J. Dragani, Executive Director
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

January 24, 2013

Contact: Tamara McBride, Ohio EMA (614) 799-3695

(Information from Central United States Earthquake Consortium [CUSEC] press releases)

Get Ready to Drop, Cover and Hold On *The Great Central U.S. ShakeOut Earthquake Drill is Two Weeks Away*

COLUMBUS, OH – In two weeks, the Ohio Emergency Management Agency will join numerous schools, organizations and county EMA offices throughout the state and Drop, Cover and Hold On during the third annual Great Central U.S. ShakeOut earthquake drill. The ShakeOut is scheduled for Thursday, February 7 at 10:15 a.m.

To date, 1.7 million people (or organizations) have signed up to participate. During the drill, all will practice the recommended response to earthquake shaking:

- **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

Earthquakes can and do happen in Ohio. Last year, the Ohio Dept. of Natural Resources and Ohio Seismic Network recorded four earthquakes. In 2011, 19 earthquakes in the state were recorded, including the 5.8 magnitude earthquake in Virginia on August 23.

The actual ShakeOut drill will only take about two minutes. But for emergency management, it's about preparing for all hazards impacting Ohio. Throughout the month, EMA offices have been busy advocating public safety and awareness for extreme cold and winter storms, power outages, carbon monoxide poisoning, fire safety, and earthquake preparedness.

The ShakeOut is coordinated by the Central U.S. Earthquake Consortium and the states of Alabama, Arkansas, Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky, Mississippi, Missouri and Tennessee. Ohio is one of 10 associate members of the CUSEC.

To participate in the 2013 Great Central U.S. ShakeOut and learn more about earthquake safety and preparedness, go to www.ShakeOut.org/centralus. Drill manuals, audio/video drill broadcasts and other ShakeOut resources are available on this site.

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