



ARKANSAS GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

VARDELLE PARHAM GEOLOGY CENTER - 3815 WEST ROOSEVELT ROAD - LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS 72204

Mike Beebe Governor

Bekki White Director and State Geologist

March 27, 2011

To the Citizens of Arkansas:

The Arkansas Geological Survey (AGS) and Arkansas Governor's Earthquake Advisory Council (GEAC) is a group of officials and experts concerned with earthquakes in Arkansas and how to prepare for them. Arkansas has seen numerous earthquakes throughout its history and is home to two distinct seismically active areas (New Madrid seismic zone in northeast Arkansas and the Enola and Guy-Greenbrier earthquake swarms of north-central Arkansas). Knowing that significant earthquakes have occurred in the past, we should be ready for others in the future. Earthquakes occur without warning and give no notice before they happen. So the AGS and GEAC encourage Arkansans to take every opportunity to prepare.

An excellent opportunity for such preparation is the Great Central U.S. ShakeOut, to be held in Arkansas on April 28, 2011 at 10:15 a.m. The ShakeOut will be the State's largest-ever earthquake drill, and the best time for all citizens to "Drop, Cover and Hold On". Experts believe dropping down and getting under a desk or table gives you the best chance of survival in a damaging earthquake.

It is essential to practice our earthquake drills just as one does in similar drills for tornadoes and fires. The better prepared we are for a disaster, the more lives are likely to be saved and the time it takes to recover will be greatly reduced.

To register for the Great Central U.S. ShakeOut on April 28th, go to www.ShakeOut.org/centralus

It only takes a few minutes to sign up your school, your business, or your family and it also takes a short amount of time to participate in the ShakeOut. The AGS and GEAC believe that participating in the ShakeOut, as well as being prepared for all emergencies, is time well spent. For more information on the Great Central U.S. ShakeOut, contact Katy Wilson with the Arkansas Department of Emergency Management (ADEM) by phone at (501) 683-6700 or by e-mail at <u>katy.wilson@adem.arkansas.gov</u>.

Sincerely, Scott Ausbrooks

Scott M. Ausbrooks, P.G. *Geohazards Supervisor and Chairman of the Arkansas Governor's Earthquake Advisory Council*

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