At 10:19 a.m. on October 19, 2023, millions of people will “Drop, Cover, and Hold On” in The Great Central U.S. ShakeOut, the region’s largest earthquake drill ever! Media organizations are encouraged to participate in the drill (or plan a more extensive exercise) and to inform the public about the drill.

Major earthquakes may happen anywhere you live, work, or travel. The ShakeOut is our chance to practice how to protect ourselves, and for everyone to become prepared. The goal is to prevent a major earthquake from becoming a catastrophe for you, your organization, and your community.

Why is a “Drop, Cover, and Hold On” drill important? To respond quickly you must practice often. You may only have seconds to protect yourself in an earthquake before strong shaking knocks you down, or something falls on you.

Millions of people worldwide have participated in Great ShakeOut Earthquake Drills since 2008. The Great Central U.S. ShakeOut is now held on the third Thursday of October each year.

Everyone can participate! Individuals, families, businesses, schools, colleges, government agencies and organizations are all invited to register.

As a registered ShakeOut Participant you will:
- Learn what you can do to get prepared
- Be counted in the largest earthquake drill ever
- Receive ShakeOut news and other earthquake information
- Set an example that motivates others to participate

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