



The Great Central U.S. ShakeOut Spotlight: *Whiteside County Illinois Emergency Task Force*

As the central United States is earthquake country, it is important for state and local government offices to know what to do before, during, and after an earthquake. The Great Central U.S. ShakeOut provides an opportunity for communities to practice these important steps. By practicing now, they can learn how to better prepare themselves for earthquakes and other disasters, increasing the potential to provide critical government services as usual to the communities they serve.

Below is a ShakeOut Spotlight on Whiteside County Emergency Task Force. This group includes members of local and state government, businesses, and volunteer organizations in Illinois who are working to prepare their communities for disasters. According to Lieutenant Doug Fargher with the Sterling Police Department, the Task Force will perform the following actions during the ShakeOut:



"The Task Force meets on a regular basis and constantly reviews what issues may affect the county, along with conducting area wide drills to identify areas in need of improvement in the event of a real emergency. This communication has been instrumental in the successful management of major events in the county since the group's inception.

Task Force members were all asked to use the ShakeOut website information and conduct the drill within their respective organizations. Each Task Force member agency should ensure their emergency plans are reviewed, emergency generators and communication devices are operable and every member of their organizations receive information on how to Drop, Cover, and Hold On!!!!

The public and private member agencies of the Whiteside County Emergency Task Force take the safety of our community as a fundamental responsibility and know we exist for the sake of the communities we serve.

The Whiteside County Emergency Task Force is working to be prepared, no matter how remote the possibility may appear and urge other businesses in Whiteside County, Illinois to do the same."

We would like to thank the Whiteside Emergency Task Force for their participation in the ShakeOut and commitment to preparing themselves and their community for disasters. For more information about Whiteside County, visit www.whiteside.org.

If you would like to be featured in a ShakeOut Spotlight, email shakeout@cusec.org.

The Great Central U.S. ShakeOut is a multi-state partnership to increase earthquake awareness and preparedness at all levels in the central U.S. For more information, please visit www.shakeout.org/centralus