



South Carolina Emergency Management Division

Office of the Adjutant General

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NEWS RELEASE

Immediate Release

ShakeOut for 2012 S.C. Earthquake Awareness Week

COLUMBIA, S.C. (Thursday, October 11, 2012, 3:30 p.m.) - South Carolina Governor Nikki Haley is proclaiming Earthquake Awareness Week for 2012 be observed October 14-20 in South Carolina. The S.C. Emergency Management Division encourages everyone to take this opportunity to learn about our state's fault system and how best to prepare for earthquakes. SCEMD is inviting the media and the public to events promoting earthquake preparedness as part of Earthquake Awareness Week. A highlight of the week will be the first-ever *Great Southeast ShakeOut* on Thursday, October 18.

Events for South Carolina Earthquake Awareness Week:

Our Social Faults

Each day of the week, SCEMD will be using the popular virtual pinboard, *Pinterest*, to share archival pictures from the 1886 Summerville earthquake, maps, useful facts and preparedness information. You can find SCEMD's pinboards at pinterest.com/SCEMD. SCEMD will also be sharing videos, photos links and tips on all of our social media pages including [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#). A full list of SCEMD social media can be found [here](#) or by searching "@SCEMD" on your site of choice.

Earthquake in the CSRA

Aiken County Emergency Management along with SCEMD, Aiken Electric Cooperative, local and state agencies will be participating in an earthquake-based tabletop exercise to examine the Central Savannah River Area's ability to respond to an earthquake. The exercise will be held at Aiken Electric Cooperative, 2790 Wagener Road, Aiken, S.C., from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

The Great Southeast ShakeOut

More than 213,000 people in South Carolina have registered for the *Great Southeast ShakeOut* Earthquake Drill on October 18. Similar to other emergency preparedness drills sponsored by SCEMD, **the signal to begin the drill will be broadcast at 10:18 a.m. on NOAA tone-alert weather radio and broadcast media.**

The Great ShakeOut is open to everyone in South Carolina. To register, go to www.shakeout.org/southeast. Be sure to include the total number of people taking part in the drill with you. More than a million participants total from South Carolina, North Carolina, Georgia, Maryland, Virginia and Washington, D.C., have registered to date.

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 recorded 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, Ill, 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*, available at scemd.org.

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