



# The Great U.S. Virgin Islands ShakeOut

Annual Earthquake Drill

## Childcare and Pre-School

**At 10:19 a.m. on October 19, 2017**, thousands of U.S. Virgin Islanders will “Drop, Cover, and Hold On” in The Great U.S. Virgin Islands ShakeOut, the islands' largest earthquake drill ever! All childcare centers, in-home childcare, and pre-schools are encouraged to participate in the drill (or plan a more extensive exercise).

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 U.S. Virgin Islands ShakeOut will be 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.

Register today at [ShakeOut.org/usvi](http://ShakeOut.org/usvi)

### HOW TO PARTICIPATE

Here are a few suggestions for what childcare and pre-school facilities can do to participate in the ShakeOut. Learn more at [ShakeOut.org/usvi/howtoparticipate](http://ShakeOut.org/usvi/howtoparticipate).

#### Plan Your Drill:

- Register at [ShakeOut.org/usvi/register](http://ShakeOut.org/usvi/register) to be counted as participating, get email updates, and more.
- Download a Drill Broadcast recording from [ShakeOut.org/usvi/drill/broadcast](http://ShakeOut.org/usvi/drill/broadcast).
- Have a “Drop, Cover, and Hold On” drill at 10:19 a.m. on October 19. You can also practice other aspects of your emergency plan.
- Discuss what you learned and make improvements.

#### Get Prepared for Earthquakes:

- Identify items that might fall and cause injury, and secure them with appropriate seismic restraints.
- Create and/or update your disaster plan.
- Check your emergency supplies; make sure they are fresh, accessible and functional.
- Encourage staff and children to prepare at home.
- Provide first aid and response training for staff.

#### Share the ShakeOut:

- Encourage staff and children’s families to ask their friends and neighbors to register.
- Ask colleagues at other facilities to participate.
- Find posters, flyers, and other materials for promoting the ShakeOut at [ShakeOut.org/usvi/resources](http://ShakeOut.org/usvi/resources).
- Share photos and stories of your drill at [Shakeout.org/usvi/share](http://Shakeout.org/usvi/share).



### 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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