



# The Great U.S. Virgin Islands ShakeOut

Annual Earthquake Drill

## Animal Services

**At 10:19 a.m. on October 19, 2023**, 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 animal shelter and service providers such as humane societies, veterinarians, kennels, and animal sanctuaries are encouraged to participate in 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 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](https://ShakeOut.org/usvi)

### HOW TO PARTICIPATE

Here are a few suggestions for what animal shelters can do to participate in the ShakeOut. Learn more at [ShakeOut.org/usvi/howtoparticipate](https://ShakeOut.org/usvi/howtoparticipate).

#### Plan Your Drill:

- Register at [ShakeOut.org/usvi/register](https://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](https://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:

- Know areas for your animals to keep them out of harm.
- Check your facilities for items that might fall and cause injury and secure them.
- Be prepared that your employees and the animals you care for may need shelter for 2-3 days.
- Ask colleagues at other organizations to participate.
- Provide first aid and response training for staff.

#### Share the ShakeOut:

- Encourage employees to ask their friends, families and neighbors to register.
- Ask colleagues at other businesses to participate.
- Posters, flyers, and other promotional materials at [ShakeOut.org/usvi/resources](https://ShakeOut.org/usvi/resources).
- Share photos and stories of your drill at [Shakeout.org/usvi/share](https://Shakeout.org/usvi/share).



### As a registered ShakeOut Participant you will:

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

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