



# The Great U.S. Virgin Islands ShakeOut

Annual Earthquake Drill

## Faith-Based Organizations

**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 faith-based organizations 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](https://ShakeOut.org/usvi)

## HOW TO PARTICIPATE

Here are a few suggestions for what faith-based organizations can do to participate in the ShakeOut. More information, instructions, flyers and other resources can be found 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:

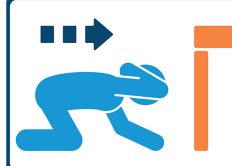
- Check your emergency supplies and equipment; make sure they are accessible and functional.
- Inspect your facilities for items that might fall and cause injury, and secure them.
- Provide first aid and response training for staff.
- Distribute ShakeOut take-home materials.

### Share the ShakeOut:

- Encourage staff and members of your congregation to ask their friends, families, and neighbors to register.
- Ask other organizations to participate.
- Find posters, flyers, and other materials for promoting the ShakeOut 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).



**DROP!**



**COVER!**



**HOLD ON!**

## 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

© 2023



FEMA