



Get Ready Ohio to Drop, Cover and Hold On!

Ohio to participate in the Great Central U.S. ShakeOut Earthquake Drill, October 17th

For three years, the Central U.S. Earthquake Consortium (CUSEC) has conducted ShakeOut earthquake drills during the month February, to coincide with the anniversaries of the New Madrid earthquakes of 1811-1812. Earlier this year on February 7, 10,345 Ohioans participated in the Great Central U.S. ShakeOut.

Although the drills were highly visible and successful, they have been out of sync with the larger, national ShakeOut earthquake drills that take place annually in October. To maximize the effectiveness of the ShakeOut, the CUSEC Board of Directors elected to move the Great Central U.S. ShakeOut to the third Thursday in October, to align with a national initiative involving more than 43 states and territories where at least 13 million people are expected to practice earthquake safety and disaster preparedness activities.

During the ShakeOut drill, everyone will practice the recommended response to earthquakes:

- ✓ **DROP** to the ground
- ✓ Take **COVER** under a sturdy table or desk, if possible, and protect your head and neck
- ✓ **HOLD ON** until the shaking stops

Earthquakes happen without warning. And, earthquakes happen in Ohio. The Ohio Department of Natural Resources and Ohio Seismic Network have recorded six earthquakes so far, this year – three in July and three in March. Ohio had a total of four earthquakes in 2012.

The actual ShakeOut drill only takes about two minutes. But for emergency managers and responders, it's the prep time beforehand, to ensure that the public is aware of how to protect itself from earthquakes and other hazards that impact Ohio.

ShakeOut is coordinated by the Central U.S. Earthquake Consortium and the states of Alabama, Arkansas, Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky, Mississippi, Missouri, Ohio, Oklahoma, and Tennessee.

Next month's ShakeOut will take place on 10/17 at 10:17 a.m. An easy date and time to remember, and it's easy to sign up to participate. Just visit CUSEC's website at: www.ShakeOut.org/centralus to sign up for the 2013 ShakeOut and to learn more about earthquake safety and preparedness.

Visit www.ready.ohio.gov for emergency preparedness and safety information on hazards that impact Ohio.

A promotional graphic for the 2013 ShakeOut drill. It features a blue background on the right side with the 'The Great Central U.S. ShakeOut' logo. The left side has an orange background with the text 'Get Ready to ShakeOut.' in large white letters, followed by 'Register Now at ShakeOut.org/centralus' in smaller white letters. Below this is the 'Ready.Ohio' logo with the tagline 'Prepare. Plan. Stay Informed.' and the date 'October 17, 2013' in large white letters.