



# South Carolina Emergency Management Division

Office of the Adjutant General

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## NEWS RELEASE

*Immediate Release*

### South Carolina to ShakeOut for Earthquake Awareness Week

**COLUMBIA, S.C. (Thursday, October 10, 2012, 10:17 a.m.)** - South Carolina Governor Nikki Haley is proclaiming Earthquake Awareness Week for 2013 be observed October 13-19 in South Carolina. The S.C. Emergency Management Division encourages everyone to take this opportunity to learn about our state's seismic fault system and how best to prepare for earthquakes. A highlight of the week will be the *Great Southeast ShakeOut* on Thursday, October 17 at 10:17 in the morning.

Eleven earthquakes have been confirmed in South Carolina this year to date. 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 detailed in the *South Carolina Earthquake Guide*, available at [scemd.org](http://scemd.org).

#### The Great Southeast ShakeOut

More than 232,000 people in South Carolina have registered for the *Great Southeast ShakeOut* Earthquake Drill on October 17. Similar to other emergency preparedness drills sponsored by SCEMD, **the signal to begin the drill will be broadcast at 10:17 a.m. on NOAA tone-alert weather radio and broadcast media.**

**Registration on the Southeast ShakeOut site is an important part of this event.** The Great ShakeOut is open to everyone in South Carolina. To register, go to [www.shakeout.org/southeast](http://www.shakeout.org/southeast). Be sure to include the total number of people taking part in the drill with you. More than 1.6 million participants total from South Carolina, North Carolina, Georgia, Maryland, Delaware, Virginia and Washington, D.C., have registered so far.

#### South Carolina Earthquake Resources:

- [The South Carolina Earthquake Guide](#)
- [Southeast ShakeOut Resources page](#)
- @SCEMD on [Twitter](#), [Facebook](#) and [more...](#)
- [ShakeOut Frequently Asked Questions page](#)
- [Every Recorded Earthquake in S.C. \(Google KMZ\)](#)
- [South Carolina Earthquake Education & Preparedness Program](#)

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