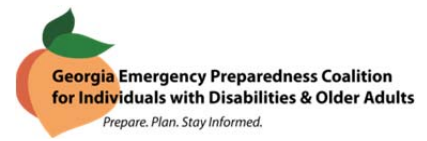


THE GREAT SOUTHEAST SHAKEOUT-OCTOBER 18, 2012

EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS CONSIDERATIONS FOR EARTHQUAKES



BEFORE AN EARTHQUAKE

- ❖ Develop a Disaster Plan.
- ❖ Secure cabinets, bookcases and mirrors to wall studs. Avoid installing bookcases next to beds, since heavily loaded structures could fall causing significant injury or death.
- ❖ Do NOT hang pictures over the bed.
- ❖ Strap any gas or electric water heater to wall studs. A broken gas line can cause a fire, while a knocked over or ruptured tank could cause damage or scalding.
- ❖ Store hazardous or flammable materials safely. If a container of flammable liquid spills during an earthquake, any source of flame may ignite the fluid and start a fire.
- ❖ Be prepared for 3-days of self-sufficiency. This is also good preparation for inclement weather and other disasters. Have on hand a flashlight, portable radio, first aid kits, fire extinguisher and water for 3 days.
- ❖ Bolt house to foundation if possible. Houses in the southeast are built to stand-upright, and may not withstand shaking.

DURING AN EARTHQUAKE

- ❖ Drop to the ground fast, otherwise the earthquake shaking may knock you down uncontrollably.
- ❖ Cover yourself below a strong table or desk. Falling objects and collapsing structures cause many of the injuries and deaths during an earthquake. Additionally, cover your head and face to protect them from broken glass and falling objects.
- ❖ Hold onto the table or desk and be prepared to move with it. Holding your position until the shaking stops.
- ❖ Do NOT run outside during the shaking or use the stairways or elevators. The entrance ways of buildings and homes are particularly dangerous because of falling bricks and debris.

AFTER AN EARTHQUAKE

- ❖ When tremors STOP, vacate premises immediately until it is safe to return.
- ❖ Look for and eliminate fire hazards that can cause further damage.
- ❖ Follow your disaster plan to locate and communicate with family and loved ones.
- ❖ Check your building for cracks and structural damage.
- ❖ Take photos to record damage before you clean up or make repairs.
- ❖ Review your insurance coverage and report claims promptly.

ADDITIONAL CONSIDERATIONS

- ❖ Do you use communication devices?
- ❖ Do you depend on accessible transportation to get to work or to other places in your community?
- ❖ Do you receive medical treatments (e.g. dialysis) on a regular basis?
- ❖ Do you need assistance with personal care?
- ❖ Do you rely on electrical equipment or other durable equipment?
- ❖ Do you use mobility aids such as a walker, cane, or a wheelchair?
- ❖ Do you have a service animal?

If you answered **YES** to any of these questions, go to: www.ready.gov or www.nod.org for more information.

GREAT AMERICAN SHAKEOUT

At 10:18 a.m. on October 18, more than 1.5 million residents across six states will "Drop, Cover and Hold On" while participating in **The Great SouthEast ShakeOut**, the first earthquake drill ever organized in the region. For more information, go to: www.shakeout.org/southeast/

WEB RESOURCES

- www.shakeout.org/southeast/
- www.gema.ga.gov
- www.fema.ga.gov
- www.gachi.org
- <http://ada.georgia.gov>

