



OCTOBER SAFETY – EARTHQUAKES

October is the month for International Earthquake Preparedness. On October 21, 2021 the Great Shakeout Earthquake Drill will be occurring worldwide. For those that do not know, Nevada ranks 3rd in the Nation for threat of Earthquakes. In the past year, there have been **more than 6,300** earthquakes in Nevada; including many that were greater than 5.0 on the Richter Scale. There is not long-term successful prediction equipment to provide us warnings an earthquake is coming...but scientists are working on it.

Earthquake safety comes to understanding there is a risk and taking steps to be prepared. Nevada absolutely has a risk...and preparedness comes largely down to an individual responsibility.

- Large shelves and items on the shelves should be secured from falling should a quake occur.
- It is suggested that each household have supplies at home to last three days; which would include dry food, water, flashlights and extra batteries.
- When a quake occurs, immediately DROP, COVER and HOLD ON. Get under any kind of desk or large object that can provide you protection to your head and back from falling debris.
- Wait until all the shaking stops, then carefully move. There may be items above you that have been shifted that still pose a falling hazard.
- After a quake, it may take significant time for emergency responders to get to you. They have to prioritize 9-1-1 calls and damage to roads and power lines can delay a response.

Prepare	Survive And Recover
<p>Before the next big earthquake we recommend these four steps that will make you, your family, or your workplace better prepared to survive and recover quickly:</p> <p>Step 1: <u>Secure your space</u> by identifying hazards and securing moveable items.</p>  <p>Step 2: <u>Plan to be safe</u> by creating a disaster plan and deciding how you will communicate in an emergency.</p>  <p>Step 3: <u>Organize disaster supplies</u> in convenient locations.</p>  <p>Step 4: <u>Minimize financial hardship</u> by organizing important documents, strengthening your property, and considering insurance.</p> 	<p>During the next big earthquake, and immediately after, is when your level of preparedness will make a difference in how you and others survive and can respond to emergencies:</p> <p>Step 5: <u>Drop, Cover, and Hold On</u> when the earth shakes.</p>  <p>Step 6: <u>Improve safety</u> after earthquakes by evacuating if necessary, helping the injured, and preventing further injuries or damage.</p>  <p>After the immediate threat of the earthquake has passed, your level of preparedness will determine your quality of life in the weeks and months that follow:</p> <p>Step 7: <u>Reconnect and Restore</u> Restore daily life by reconnecting with others, repairing damage, and rebuilding community.</p> 

If you are interested in learning more on the International Drill, look up <https://www.shakeout.org/> You can register to be a part of the Nevada group of almost 500,000 participants.

University of Nevada – Reno has a well-equipped Seismology Laboratory to study the issues with earthquakes; including working to improve awareness and preparation. Go to <http://www.seismo.unr.edu/> to see more local information.