K - 12 Schools & Districts Get Ready to ShakeOut!

October 18, 2012 at 10:18 a.m.

On October 18th, thousands of Washington residents will “Drop, Cover, and Hold On” in The Great Washington ShakeOut - our first ever earthquake drill in cooperation with Idaho, Oregon, California, and British Columbia. We encourage all schools and districts to participate with us!

Major earthquakes may happen anywhere you work, live, or travel in Washington. The ShakeOut drill is our chance to practice how to protect ourselves and become better prepared. The goal is to prevent a major earthquake from becoming a catastrophe.

Why is a “Drop, Cover, and Hold On” drill important? As with anything, to act 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.

Benefits of Participating:

- Being among the first - to participate in a region-wide life saving event.
- Being a leader - by demonstrating the importance of preparedness activities and training.
- Setting the example - that motivates other schools and districts to participate.
- Demonstrating to parents and the community - your commitment to providing a safer environment.
- Taking action - that prepares your students and staff to move quickly to a safe place during an earthquake.

Be Involved!

Here are a few suggestions for what you can do to participate in the 2012 Washington ShakeOut.

Participate:
- Register your school or district at: ShakeOut.org/washington/register to be counted in the ShakeOut and get email updates.
- Download a drill transcript or audio/video recording from ShakeOut.org/washington/broadcast.
- Join us in the “Drop, Cover, and Hold On” drill at 10:18 a.m. on October 18th.

Steps to Drop, Cover and Hold On:

DROP
(Drop to the ground, do not run!)

COVER
(Take cover under a table/desk and cover your head & neck.)

HOLD ON
(Hold on to the table or desk.)

Prepare:
- Check your school emergency supplies and equipment; ensure items are accessible and functional and have not expired.
- Consider first aid and response training for staff and students.
- Encourage staff and students to prepare at home.
- Practice, practice, practice!

Remember:

10/18 @ 10:18 a.m.