

**News Release from:** Oregon Office of Emergency Management

**Media Advisory:** REGISTER NOW FOR THE GREAT SHAKEOUT

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On Oct. 17, at 10:17 a.m. millions across the United States will "Drop, Cover, and Hold" for the Great ShakeOut, a worldwide earthquake drill designed to teach people how to prepare for an earthquake. Join them by registering for the Oregon ShakeOut at [www.shakeout.org/oregon](http://www.shakeout.org/oregon).

The ShakeOut began in southern California in 2008 as a way to involve the public in a large-scale emergency management exercise and has now grown to become the largest public preparedness exercise in the United States. More than 14.5 million people in the U.S., and 160,000 Oregon residents participated in the ShakeOut in 2012.

"We cannot predict when an earthquake will strike, but we can work to make sure people are prepared," said Kim Lippert, Public Information Officer with the Oregon Office of Emergency Management. "The ShakeOut is a great way for individuals and organizations to practice what to do in an earthquake."

Part of the appeal of the ShakeOut is its simplicity. At a minimum, participants practice "Drop, Cover, and Hold," the recommended procedure for self-protection during an earthquake. Many schools and other organizations also practice additional aspects of their preparedness plans.

"Choose to be prepared and be a survivor not a victim when an earthquake strikes," said Althea Rizzo, Geologic Hazards Coordinator for Oregon Office of Emergency Management.

Current scientific findings indicate Oregon is at risk for a major 9.0 or higher earthquake similar to the one that struck Japan in 2011. Oregon is located in the Cascadia Subduction Zone, a massive fault line stretching from California to British Columbia.

Learn more about the Oregon Great ShakeOut at [www.shakeout.org/oregon](http://www.shakeout.org/oregon).

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