

2013 Great Central U.S. ShakeOut

The 2013 Great Central U.S. ShakeOut is scheduled on February 7. This event provides an opportunity to practice your protective actions during a major earthquake: “Drop, Cover, and Hold On.”

Although ORO will NOT be conducting earthquake drills, you are encouraged to review the following information.

It is of the utmost importance that we are prepared for major earthquakes, and understand how to protect ourselves when they happen. The purpose of the ShakeOut is to help people and organizations do both. You could be anywhere when an earthquake strikes: at home, at work, at school and even on vacation.

One of the most frightening and destructive phenomena of nature is a severe earthquake and its terrible after effects. An earthquake is the sudden shaking of the earth, caused by the breaking and shifting of subterranean rock as it releases strain that has accumulated over a over period of time.

While earthquakes are sometimes believed to be a West Coast occurrence, there are actually 45 states and territories throughout the United States that are at moderate to high risk for earthquakes including the New Madrid fault line in the Central U.S.

If an earthquake event were to occur while you’re at work:

- Stay away from windows.
- Get under something solid (e.g., doorframe, desk, table) and remain there until the tremor stops.
- Listen for instructions that may be given over the Public Address system.
- When the tremors stop, evacuate to the assembly area using the nearest exit. Beware of fallen debris.
- If workers are trapped or hurt, call 911.
- Remain at the assembly. Do not reenter the building unless instructed otherwise.

Building specific information for the Federal Building Complex is located:

<https://sharepoint.oro.doe.gov/Orgs/Security/Emergency%20Management%20Team/Pages/default.aspx>

Other Resources:

<http://www.ready.gov/earthquakes>

<http://www.shakeout.org/centralus/>

http://www.earthquakecountry.info/roots/seven_steps.html#kits

<http://earthquakecountry.info/dropcoverholdon/>