

Earthquake Preparedness

Great Nevada Shakeout

STOREY COUNTY

Great Shakeout Earthquake Drills promote both internal and community-wide earthquake readiness. Participants practice the “**Drop, Cover, and Hold On**” safety procedure and other aspects of their emergency plans. **ShakeOut** is designed so you can tailor the drill to your organization’s needs, and typically is not a centrally managed exercise involving complex reporting and coordination requirements. It will take about 10 minutes on October 15th.

The third Thursday of October each year is the “International ShakeOut Day of Action” (October 15 in 2015).

Why should I be concerned?....Why should I participate?

DID YOU KNOW THAT STOREY COUNTY, Virginia City, etc. lies directly over a major earthquake fault? *How do you think the gold and silver was formed?* This particular fault line runs from south of Dayton, on a line directly through the Comstock and the Highlands.

AND...we are predicted to experience an earthquake of a magnitude greater than 6 on the Richter scale in the next 5 to 15 years. So you tell me why we should be prepared?

This year, 2015, Storey County is going to register and participate in the Great Nevada Shakeout drill. This is not a big complicated exercise. For each employee of the county, or anyone else that is interested, it will involve approximately from 1 to 10 minutes of your time on October 15th, while remaining in your office, home or where ever you happen to be. Hopefully, this exercise will also include the Storey County Schools. Prior

to the 10 minute exercise you will occasionally be provided with some informational material to read and, hopefully, heed.

All you have to do is **Drop, Cover and Hold On** for 1 minute at a particular time on **October 15th, 2015**. Prior to that you will have received earthquake awareness information via email from the good folks at Storey County Emergency Management. There won't be a test but we might stop by and ask you a question out of the material you will be sent. Won't be hard and maybe even fun.

Everyone everywhere should **know how to protect themselves during an earthquake—at home, work, school, or while traveling in an earthquake-prone region... *That's US!*** While earthquakes are unpredictable, preparation efforts can greatly reduce physical injuries and property damage. Research shows that when people practice what to do ahead of time, they are more likely to respond instinctively with the correct action during an emergency.

So get on the band wagon, think earthquake preparedness, think about survival of an earthquake and how you are going to function afterward. For instance, do you have a generator? Do you have a stock of 3 days of food (*and I don't mean just a supply of Hershey bars*)? Do you have one gallon of water for each person in your family per day? Do you know how to turn off your propane and electricity if necessary? More later.

REMEMBER: 72-96 That's the number of hours that might be involved before professional rescue can get to you...*because they will be affected by the earthquake also.*

MAKE A PLAN - BUILD A KIT - STAY INFORMED

More later....stay tuned, get involved.....ask questions.