Earthquake Preparedness Tips & Strategies

For Local Emergency Managers & Citizens

What to Do **BEFORE** an Earthquake
What to Do **DURING** an Earthquake
What to Do **AFTER** an Earthquake

BE PREPARED!
For more information, log onto:
www.gema.ga.gov
www.ready.ga.gov
www.geophysics.eas.gatech.edu

Ready.Ga | Earthquake | FEMA
Georgia Earthquake Activity
June 1872 through November 2010

Historical Earthquake
In Georgia
- 5.0 and above
- 4.0 to 4.9
- 3.0 to 3.9
- 2.0 to 2.9
- Most At Risk Counties

GEMA Areas
Individual and Family Preparedness is the best insurance against earthquake damage. Of the things to do, the single most important is to eliminate those hazards in the home that could cause significant damage to people or property during an earthquake. When a building shakes in an earthquake, falling objects can cause injury or start a fire. Many of the hazards associated with falling objects can be eliminated or minimized before an earthquake strikes. This guide has been developed to provide you with a quick reference guide intended to reduce possible damage to individuals and homes within your community.
Ενάντια σε έναν Ειδώλωση

- Καθορίστε εναν κατασκευαστικό πλαν.
- Επικοινωνήστε από την ιδιοκτησία γραφείων, βιβλιοθηκών και κατακόρυφα στην τοίχο στήριξη. Αποφεύγετε να εγκαταστήσετε βιβλιοθήκες εκτός βεβαίως στη σεισμικά θάλασσα, μεταξύ των σεισμικών δυνάμεων που μπορεί να σφήξει το κλειδί και προκαλεί τον νεκροτομομάχο ή την θανατητή του.
- Δεν θέστε πίνακες ψηφιδωτά πάνω από το κρεβάτι. Στο κρεβάτι, μπορεί να κατακτήσει την ιδιοκτητικότητα και να προκαλέσει σοβαρά τραυματισμό ή θάνατο.
- Επικοινωνήστε από την εγκατάσταση του ψυγείου αυτοκινήτων στην τοίχο στήριξης. Αν έρθει ένας σεισμός, η εγκατάσταση ή η επανέναρξη του ψυγείου αυτοκινήτων θα προκαλέσει σοβαρά προβλήματα και τραυματισμό.
- Αποφεύγετε να κρατάτε εμπορικά υλικά στις θέσεις της αγοράς. Αν έρθει ένας σεισμός, η εμπορική αγορά θα προκαλέσει προβλήματα και τραυματισμό.
- Επικοινωνήστε από την εγκατάσταση της ένταξης και της άγνωστης ένταξης στην τοίχο στήριξης. Αν έρθει ένας σεισμός, η εγκατάσταση θα προκαλέσει σοβαρά προβλήματα και τραυματισμό.
- Επικοινωνήστε από την εγκατάσταση του μεταλλικού λεκέδων της οικίας. Αν έρθει ένας σεισμός, η εγκατάσταση θα προκαλέσει σοβαρά προβλήματα και τραυματισμό.
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Drop, Cover and Hold On is the simple three step solution to minimize the risk of being hurt or killed during an earthquake.

- **Drop** to the ground fast, otherwise the earthquake shaking may knock you down uncontrollably.
- **Cover** yourself below a strong table or desk. Falling objects and collapsing structures cause many of the injuries and deaths during an earthquake. Additionally, cover your head and face to protect them from broken glass and falling objects.
- **Hold** onto the table or desk and be prepared to move with it. Holding your position until the shaking stops.
- **Do NOT** run outside during the shaking or use the stairways or elevators. The entranceways of buildings and homes are particularly dangerous because of falling bricks and debris.

For Local Emergency Managers & Citizens
When tremors STOP, vacate premises immediately until it is safe to return.

Look for and eliminate fire hazards that can cause further damage.

Follow your disaster plan to locate and communicate with family and loved ones.

Check your building for cracks and structural damage.

Take photos to record damage before you clean up or make repairs.

Move valuables to a safe weatherproof location.

Review your insurance coverage and report claims promptly.

Collect inventory records, appraisals and photographic records.

Use licensed professionals to conduct inspections and repair your home.

Look for ways to better prepare your home for earthquakes as you repair or rebuild.
Earthquakes strike suddenly, violently, and without warning at any time of the year and at any time of the day or night.

Smaller earthquakes often follow the main shock.

An earthquake is caused by the breaking and shifting of rock beneath the Earth's surface. Ground shaking from earthquakes can collapse buildings and bridges; disrupt gas, electric, and phone service; and sometimes trigger landslides, avalanches, flash floods, fires, and huge, destructive ocean waves (tsunamis).

Most earthquake-related injuries result from collapsing walls, flying glass, and falling objects.

It is estimated that a major earthquake in a highly populated area of the United States could cause as much as $200 billion in losses.
California experiences the most frequent damaging earthquakes; however, Alaska experiences the greatest number of large earthquakes—most located in uninhabited areas.

Earthquakes occur most frequently west of the Rocky Mountains, although historically the most violent earthquakes have occurred in the central United States.

The largest earthquakes felt in the United States were along the New Madrid Fault in Missouri, where a 3-month-long series of quakes from 1811 to 1812 included three quakes larger than a magnitude of 8 on the Richter Scale. These earthquakes were felt over the entire eastern United States (over 2 million square miles), with Missouri, Tennessee, Kentucky, Indiana, Illinois, Ohio, Alabama, Arkansas, and Mississippi experiencing the strongest ground shaking.

The Richter Scale, developed by Charles F. Richter in 1935, is a logarithmic measurement of the amount of energy released by an earthquake.
Earthquake Insurance is available as a rider to most home insurance policies. To be effective, they should protect the homeowner against the most likely damage expected from a small or distant earthquake, such as the failure of brick facing experienced by a homeowner in a small earthquake near Lake Sinclair. These riders vary in price depending on the deductible and company pricing practices. Clearly, a high deductible would protect mostly against the very rare large earthquake that might cause more than 10-20% damage to your property (dependent on deductible). The cost versus peace-of-mind needs to always be assessed for any such purchase.

For more information on earthquake preparedness, go to:

- Ready Georgia  
  Website: www.ready.ga.gov
- Georgia Emergency Management Agency (GEMA)  
  Phone: 1-800-TRY-GEMA  
  Phone: 404-635-7200  
  Website: www.gema.ga.gov
- Georgia Institute of Technology School of Earth & Atmospheric Sciences  
  Phone: 404-894-3093  
  Fax: 404-894-5638  
  Website: www.geophysics.eas.gatech.edu