



MISSISSIPPI EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY

NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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SAFETY TIPS DURING AN EARTHQUAKE

PEARL – This week is Earthquake Awareness Week in Mississippi and the Mississippi Emergency Management Agency and local emergency management directors would like to remind citizens of how they can prepare for an earthquake.

- **Learn to DROP, COVER and HOLD ON!** Practice the drill at least twice a year with your family to drop under a sturdy desk or table and hold on to one leg of the table or desk.
- **Pick a safe place in every room of your home**, such as under a sturdy table or desk or against an interior wall away from windows, bookcases or tall furniture that could fall on you.
- **Wait in your safe place until the shaking stops, then check to see if you or anybody else is hurt.** Be ready for additional earthquakes called “aftershocks.”
- **Talk with your insurance agent.** Different areas have different requirements for earthquake protection. Study locations of active faults, and if you are at risk, consider purchasing earthquake insurance.
- **If you are in a car during an earthquake, stay in the car with your seatbelt fastened.**
- **If you are outside during an earthquake, stay outside.** Move away from buildings, trees, streetlights and power lines. Crouch down and cover your head.

“We all share the responsibility of being prepared for our next natural disaster,” said MEMA Director Robert Latham. “While we have not had a major earthquake in Mississippi for a number of years we should all take this threat seriously and take time to make a plan and discuss it with your family and friends.”

For information on preparing an all-hazards disaster survival kit and tips for protecting your property against earthquakes, visit MEMA online at www.msema.org and click the “Preparedness” link. Additional information is available from CUSEC at www.cusec.org, USGS at www.usgs.gov and from the Federal Emergency Management Agency at www.fema.gov.

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“Disaster Preparedness Saves Lives and Property”
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