

New Madrid Seismic Zone Planning Resources

Local, state, and federal agencies have plans to protect the public, but you are responsible for your own safety, even in an earthquake. While earthquakes most often occur with little to no warning, there are steps you can take to protect yourself and your family. By acting today, you can reduce your vulnerability to earthquakes that may happen in the future. Use these planning documents to help you stay safe before, during, and after an earthquake.

New Madrid Seismic Zone

Learn about the Earthquakes of 1811-12 and how these dramatic accounts clearly show that destructive earthquakes do not happen only in the western United States. In the past 25 years, scientists have learned that strong earthquakes in the central Mississippi Valley are not freak events but have occurred repeatedly in the geologic past. The area of major earthquake activity also has frequent minor shocks and is known as the New Madrid Seismic Zone (NMSZ). The NMSZ is made up of several thrust faults that stretch from Marked Tree, Arkansas to Cairo, Illinois.

In 1811, the central Mississippi Valley was sparsely populated. Today, the region is home to millions of people, including those in the cities of St. Louis, Missouri, and Memphis, Tennessee. Adding to the danger, most structures in the region were not built to withstand earthquake shaking, as they have been in more seismically active areas like California. Moreover, most earthquake preparations also have lagged far behind.

Recognizing these problems, the Central United States Earthquake Consortium (CUSEC), states within the NMSZ, the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) and other organizations are joining together to take actions that will greatly reduce loss of life and property in future temblors.

Use the following resources to help your families and your communities become better prepared to withstand the effects of a major earthquake in your area.

<http://cusec.org/new-madrid-seismic-zone/>

Earthquake Safety & Preparedness

By learning about potential earthquake hazards in your area and taking certain preparedness measures now, you can increase your chances of surviving an earthquake and minimize its dangerous and damaging impact.

<http://cusec.org/earthquake-safety-preparedness/>

Are You 2 Weeks Ready?

Are you and your family prepared to survive an earthquake or other disaster for 2 weeks? Do you have enough [supplies to last you at least two weeks](#)—in the event of an extended emergency situation? Here are several easy and affordable things you can do to get better prepared in case disaster strikes.

<http://cusec.org/2weeksready/>

Seven Steps to Earthquake Safety

Everyone, everywhere, should learn and practice what to do during an earthquake, whether at home, work, school or traveling. This includes specific recommendations for Persons with Disabilities: Practice Drop, Cover and Hold On now and every 6 months. Use this information as a step-by-step guide to give you details on what to do before, during, and after an earthquake. <http://cusec.org/seven-steps-to-earthquake-safety/>

Earthquake Country Alliance (ECA)

ECA is a public-private-grassroots partnership of people and organizations that work together to improve earthquake and tsunami preparedness, mitigation and resilience. The information included in this website addresses additional needs that Persons with Disabilities and others with

Access and Functional Needs (AFN) may have before, during and after an earthquake.

<https://www.earthquakecountry.org/>

An Earthquake Preparedness Guide for Mobile Homeowners

A major New Madrid earthquake will cause damage to numerous mobile homes in the Central United States. Risks are highest in counties located in or near the New Madrid Seismic Zone. (NMSZ). Mobile homeowners in the central U.S. can use this information to understand and reduce the earthquake risk.

<http://www.cusec.org/publications/safety/preparednessmobilehomes.pdf>

Stay Safe During an Earthquake

Missourians Prepare in Case of an Earthquake - Watch students participate in a "ShakeOut" drill and learn why "Drop, Cover, Hold On" is the best protection in an earthquake.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-P0pSPm6dX4>

Is Your Family Prepared for an Earthquake?

This guide is designed to help you and your family plan for and survive a major earthquake. You could be without help for up to 72 hours, so use these precautionary steps so you and your family can respond to an earthquake. <https://extension.missouri.edu/publications/g1905>

An Earthquake Preparedness Guide for Blind & Visually Impaired Persons

This guide is designed to help the blind and visually impaired understand and reduce the earthquake risk.

<http://www.cusec.org/publications/safety/preparednessforblind.pdf>

FEMA B-526 Earthquake Safety Checklist

The checklist acts as a reference guide that helps individuals and families prepare for an earthquake event and prevent earthquake-related damage.

https://www.fema.gov/sites/default/files/documents/fema_b-526-eq-safety-checklist.pdf

Earthquake Home Hazard Hunt Poster

This poster provides visuals and descriptions so that homeowners can identify and fix at-risk areas of their homes to reduce future earthquake damage and disruption.

https://www.fema.gov/sites/default/files/2020-07/fema_earthquake_earthquake-home-hazard-hunt-poster-fema-528.pdf

Earthquake Insurance

Did you know:

- Standard homeowners' insurance does not cover damage resulting from land movement or landslides.
- Many insurance companies stopped insuring earthquakes in the 1990s after projections suggested that a major earthquake could potentially bankrupt them.
- If impacted by an earthquake, most homes would experience damage that does not exceed their insurance deductibles, meaning that even with insurance's high rates, insured homeowners would not receive money from their policy to address the damage.
- Missouri is the third largest market for earthquake insurance among the states.

Download the Missouri Earthquake Insurance Shopping Guide to help you answer the question "Why Consider Earthquake Insurance?"

https://insurance.mo.gov/earthquake/images/earthquakecoverage_button_000.jpg

Download the Earthquake Insurance infographic for a poster of this webpage, plus bonus information about what your typical homeowner's insurance does and does not cover.

https://www.fema.gov/sites/default/files/graphics/fema_earthquake-insurance-infographic_112022.jpg

Take control of your financial future and download the Earthquakes Can Drain Your Bank Account infographic.

https://www.fema.gov/sites/default/files/graphics/fema_earthquakes-can-drain-your-bank-account_thumbnail.png

QuakeSmart

QuakeSmart is a FEMA program that guides businesses and organizations of all sizes to identify potential vulnerabilities and learn ways to reduce earthquake-related losses.

<https://www.fema.gov/emergency-managers/risk-management/earthquake/raining/quakesmart>

The Ready Business QuakeSmart Program allows users to take action to protect employees, protect customers, and help ensure business continuity due to earthquakes. Visit

https://www.ready.gov/sites/default/files/2020-04/ready-business_quakesmart_toolkit.pdf to download the toolkit.

Spanish Ready Business QuakeSmart Toolkit

https://www.ready.gov/sites/default/files/2020-04/ready-business_quakesmart_toolkit_spanish.pdf

Protect Your Contents, Secure Your Space

Find videos and flash cards that help you protect your contents and secure your space during an earthquake. A Spanish version is available.

<https://flash.org/readybusiness/toolkit/quakesmart/>

CUSEC Earthquake Resources for Teachers & Students

There are many resources available online to help students, parents, and teachers learn about why earthquakes happen and the effects they have on people and natural and built environments. Use these resources that focus on earthquake education and classroom projects.

<http://cusec.org/earthquake-resources-for-teachers-students/>

Central U.S. Earthquake Guide

This informative guide has information on earthquakes in the central U.S., earthquakes of 1811-1812, common earthquake terms, earthquake safety tips, earthquake mitigation tips, pet/animal considerations during a disaster, earthquake insurance, and more! This is an eight panel fold out poster, which the second side can be hung on a wall or in an office for viewing.

http://www.cusec.org/publications/safety/earthquakeguide_lowres.pdf

The Great ShakeOut Drills

What are the Great ShakeOut earthquake drills? The Great ShakeOut earthquake drills are based on scenario earthquakes that could affect the area if they were to take place. Great ShakeOut Earthquake Drills are an annual opportunity for people in homes, schools, and organizations to practice what to do during earthquakes, and to improve preparedness. These events are made possible through a collaboration between several agencies including the USGS.

<https://www.usgs.gov/faqs/what-are-great-shakeout-earthquake-drills>.

Register for the annual event by clicking on this link.

<https://www.shakeout.org/faq/>

IS-325: Earthquake Basics: Science, Risk, and Mitigation Course (10/31/2013)

This 30-minute independent study course presents basic information on earthquake science, risk, and mitigation. It also discusses techniques for structural and non-structural earthquake mitigation. Earthquake basics is targeted to a wide range of audiences, including homeowners, business owners, the private sector, federal, state, tribal and local government workforce at all levels, first responders, non-profit organizations, volunteers, and community-based organizations. Although certification is not a part of the course, short quizzes are included to enhance interactivity and to boost retention.

<https://training.fema.gov/is/courseoverview.aspx?code=IS-325&lang=en>