

# Ada County Emergency Management Emergency Preparedness Pointer



October 2016

## Earthquake Awareness Month: Take Part In The Great Idaho ShakeOut

Did you know that the U.S. Geological Survey ranks Idaho 6th in the nation for seismic activity? 460 earthquakes have hit Idaho in the last year alone. The biggest earthquake threat to Ada County comes from the Squaw Creek Fault 25 miles north of the Boise area. Many people are unaware that we could have a 6 or 7 magnitude earthquake in Ada County. October is Earthquake Awareness Month in Idaho, and we ask that every home, business, school, and any other organization in Ada County take part in **The Great Idaho ShakeOut on October 20th at 10:20 AM**. Register your drill at [shakeout.org/idaho/](http://shakeout.org/idaho/), and drop, cover, and hold on with us!

Official Participant

**Join Us**  
in the  
World's Largest  
Earthquake Drill.



Register at [www.ShakeOut.org](http://www.ShakeOut.org)

### Conduct a Home Hazard Hunt

This is a great opportunity to look around your home and identify those items that could be a hazard to your safety during an earthquake. Here are several things you can do to make your home safer:

- ◆ Brace or replace masonry chimneys
- ◆ Strap down computers and televisions

- ◆ Secure cabinets to wall studs and use latches on cabinet doors
- ◆ Fasten or relocate heavy pictures or wall hangings
- ◆ Brace water heaters to walls and replace gas lines with flexible connections
- ◆ Ensure gas appliances have flexible connections
- ◆ Strap bookcases and shelves to walls

- ◆ Know how to shut off all utilities in your home
- ◆ Secure all ceiling fans and hanging light fixtures

There are several ways you can address each one of these hazards. For more information about earthquake preparedness visit FEMA's [Earthquake Home Hazard Hunt](#) page and [shakeout.org/idaho/](http://shakeout.org/idaho/).

**What to do if you are outdoors during an earthquake:**

- ✓ Move quickly to an open area
- ✓ Stay away from power lines, trees, and buildings
- ✓ Drop down, cover your head, and wait for the shaking to stop

### Earthquake Safety in Idaho Back Country

Earthquakes can happen at any time. If you find yourself enjoying all of the outdoor activities Idaho has to offer when an earthquake strikes, be cautious of the surrounding terrain. Mountainous areas are at high risk of falling rocks and debris. Landslides are often caused by seismic activity. Many roads in our mountainous areas could be damaged or blocked after an earthquake. Be sure to drive carefully and avoid bridges and roads that have been damaged. As always, take an emergency kit with you when exploring Idaho's great outdoors.

**Get Ready to Shake Out.**



Register at [www.ShakeOut.org](http://www.ShakeOut.org)

