



April 2025 is Earthquake Preparedness Month

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SACRAMENTO – Earthquakes can strike California at any moment. In fact, California is prone to several significant earthquakes each year. [More than 70 percent](#) of the state's population resides within 30 miles of a fault where high ground shaking could occur in the next 50 years. As part of April's statewide Earthquake Preparedness Month, the California Governor's Office of Emergency Services (Cal OES) is urging Californians to take proactive measures to protect themselves, including using earthquake early warning technology. Even seconds of advance notification can save lives, reduce injuries, and minimize property damage. Join us in highlighting why swift action and preparedness are essential for residents, visitors, and businesses across the state.

Nothing captures our collective attention like an earthquake, but awareness alone isn't enough. Even before shaking begins, preparedness is crucial. The use of available tools, such as earthquake early warnings and preparedness plans, can significantly impact outcomes by saving lives, reducing injuries, and lessening economic damage.

"Being prepared is our best defense against the unpredictable nature of earthquakes and their potentially devastating aftermath," said Lori Nezhura, Deputy Director of Planning, Preparedness and Prevention at Cal OES. "Taking steps now, such as creating emergency kits, practicing drop, cover, and hold on drills, and downloading the [MyShake app](#), can ensure Californians are ready to respond swiftly, thereby minimizing risk and protecting themselves and their families."

Cal OES has prepared and is deploying resources to help Californians take actionable preparation steps this April, including:

Find us in Person at the Sacramento History Museum and Experience the Shake Simulator – April 5, 2025

Earthquakes are a fundamental part of our history. They created our iconic mountain ranges but have also been sources of serious devastation. Find our new exhibit at the

[Sacramento History Museum](#) to learn more about how earthquakes have shaped our state and how you can protect yourself, your family, and your home. Join us in person on April 5 and experience the earthquake simulator, which gives you real-life exposure to earthquakes of various magnitudes.

Earthquake Readiness Guide Ready for Download

This comprehensive guide offers clear, easy-to-follow earthquake safety tips, explains essential preparedness steps, and details how Californians can take protective actions before, during, and after an earthquake. Download the guide [here](#) today to ensure you and your loved ones are prepared.

Amplifying Earthquake Preparedness Across Social Media

Cal OES is leveraging a targeted social media campaign in partnership with influential content creators from high-risk seismic regions to amplify earthquake preparedness messaging statewide. Through relatable content and inclusive guidance tailored to diverse communities, including families, individuals with disabilities, and residents in dense urban centers, the campaign delivers practical advice on household preparation, assembling emergency go-bags, and post-quake response. These collaborative efforts support Cal OES's mission to provide accessible, effective safety information for all Californians.

Public Service Announcements for Newsrooms

Cal OES will provide two animated videos with key safety messages to newsrooms statewide, helping ensure accurate, timely, and actionable earthquake information reaches the public quickly following a seismic event. Californians can view the shortened version [here](#) which provides a brief overview of best earthquake safety practices and the longer PSA [here](#) which details how to adapt the drop, cover, and hold on practice in a variety of scenarios. Local news stations play a critical role as primary sources of information during disasters, making consistency and accuracy in their reporting essential.

Californians can find all these resources and more at the [Earthquake Warning California website](#). The site also offers preparedness tips on how to make plans, secure items throughout the home, and information on what your community is doing to keep you safe from intense shaking.

Prepare Now!

Take a moment to review the [Seven Steps to Earthquake Safety](#). This instructive guide provides the necessary information you can utilize to prepare, survive, and recover in the event of a large earthquake. In the event of an immediate earthquake, remember to:





This April, join countless others in being prepared and aware of what to do when the next big earthquake occurs.

About California Earthquake Early Warning and MyShake

Launched in 2019, MyShake was the first mobile application to provide statewide earthquake early warning alerts for earthquakes with a magnitude of 4.5 or greater. The application leverages science and technology to deliver early warning alerts to “drop, cover and hold on” before shaking starts. In addition to mobile devices, the MyShake application is now available for Chromebooks and can be downloaded for free through the Google Play Store.

About The California Governor's Office of Emergency Services (Cal OES)

Cal OES serves as the state's lead emergency management agency, including responding, directing, and coordinating state and federal resources and mutual aid assets across all regions to support communities across the state.

About California Earthquake Early Warning System

The California Earthquake Early Warning system powered by ShakeAlert is the country's first publicly available, statewide warning system that could give California residents crucial seconds to take cover before you feel shaking. Managed by Cal OES, Earthquake Warning California uses ground motion sensors from across the state to detect earthquakes before humans can feel them and can notify Californians to “Drop, Cover and Hold On” in advance of an earthquake.

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