

Staying Safe in Earthquake Country

With ShakeAlert® Ready Outdoors

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EARTHQUAKES

Know the Signs

If you are outdoors, here are some ways you can tell that you may be experiencing an earthquake.

Anywhere Outdoors

- You get an alert on your phone
- Ground shaking
- Unusual rumbling or cracking sounds

Near/On Slopes

- Landslides/falling rocks
- Cracks in the ground
- Changes in water flow

Near Trees

- Swaying or leaning trees
- Falling trees

Around Animals

- Restless behavior
- Sudden attempts to flee

Near Water

- Changes in water flow or levels
- Sudden flooding or dryness
- Unusual waves or standing waves
- Rapid erosion along the coastline
- Sudden retreat of ocean water
- Tsunami alert

If you FEEL SHAKING or GET AN ALERT, take a protective action immediately!

MOVE TO AN OPEN SPACE

DROP! COVER!

HOLD ON!

DRIVING?

SLOW DOWN

PULL OVER, STOP

STAY INSIDE!

On the coast? Wait for shaking to stop, then ...

Go to high ground or inland immediately!

Stay there until local officials say it's safe to return.

The shaking is your tsunami warning. Tsunami waves may arrive for hours.

Get Alerts on Your Phone*

*Internet connection is required.

Learn How

usgs.gov/FAQ/BeShakeAlertSafe

ShakeAlert™

Because seconds matter.

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What is ShakeAlert® Ready Outdoors?

Expanding Venues and Contexts for Promoting ShakeAlert by empowering park visitors to recognize they ...

- (1) are in earthquake country
- (2) can do something to protect themselves before, during, and after earthquakes
- (3) can use ShakeAlert Earthquake Early Warning to keep them safe.

Partnerships & Collaboration

The **ShakeAlert Ready Outdoors** project is guided by the **ShakeAlert Ready Outdoors Focus Team (SROFT)**, composed of representatives from:

- U.S. Geological Survey
- National Park Service
- U.S. Forest Service
- State Geological Surveys
- City Parks and Recreation Departments
- Other Free Choice Learning Environments

✓ We develop lasting relationships between ShakeAlert and parks/outdoor venues to promote earthquake preparedness and ShakeAlert EEW.

Resources for Parks

✓ We design thought-provoking, visually inviting information and resources that link unique geological park features with seismic hazards and ShakeAlert EEW. These resources will augment park staff's educational interactions with visitors with a specific public safety focus.

The ShakeAlert® Earthquake Early Warning System detects significant earthquakes quickly, so alerts can be delivered to people and automated systems potentially seconds before strong shaking arrives. Because earthquakes can happen without warning, it is vital to take a protective action immediately if you feel shaking or get an alert, including when you are enjoying the great outdoors.

ShakeAlert® is the nation's only public earthquake early warning system. This public safety technology partnership, which includes the states of California, Oregon, and Washington, among others, can help you to be "ShakeAlert Ready Outdoors" on the West Coast.

ShakeAlert® Earthquake Early Warning

- 1 ShakeAlert sensors detect an earthquake in progress and data Processing Centers rapidly estimate its location, size (magnitude), and degree of shaking (intensity).
- 2 USGS-licensed Delivery Partners pick up this data and issue alerts where strong shaking may occur.
- 3 Protect yourself if you get an alert or if the environment suggests an earthquake may be happening, such as rumbling sounds, trees snapping, rocks falling, animals fleeing, or water retreating.

Adapted from Erin Burkett (USGS) and Jeff Goertzen (Orange County Register). Updated by ShakeAlert team (2025).

ShakeAlert™
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Learn more at ShakeAlert.org **ShakeAlert™**