**Earthquake Plan**

**July 1, 2022**

An earthquake is a sudden and rapid shaking of the ground caused by the breaking and shifting of subterranean rock as it releases strain that has accumulated over a long time. Earthquakes can happen without warning and can result in injuries and damage to property and roads. Since an earthquake cannot be forecasted, it is best to be prepared at all times. They can seriously damage buildings and their contents; disrupt gas, electric and telephone services.

The shaking of the ground or building will be the only warning you might receive. There will be no formal alerting of an earthquake.

**Procedures**

Drop, Cover and Hold On. Minimize your movements to a few steps to a nearby safe place and if you are indoors, stay there until the shaking has stopped and you are sure exiting is safe.

Indoors

* **DROP** to the ground; take **COVER** by getting under a sturdy table or other pieces of furniture; and **HOLD ON** until the shaking stops. If there isn’t a table or desk near you, cover your face and head with your arms and crouch in an inside corner of the building.
* Stay away from glass, windows, outside doors and walls, and anything that could fall, such as lighting fixtures or furniture.
* Stay in bed if you are there when the earthquake strikes. Hold on and protect your head with a pillow, unless you are under a heavy light fixture that could fall. In that case, move to the nearest safe place.
* Do not use a doorway except if you know it is a strongly supported, load-bearing doorway and it is close to you. Many inside doorways are lightly constructed and do not offer protection.
* Stay inside until the shaking stops and it is safe to go outside. Do not exit a building during the shaking. Research has shown that most injuries occur when people inside buildings attempt to move to a different location inside the building or try to leave.
* DO NOT use elevators.
* Be aware that the electricity may go out. The sprinkler systems or fire alarms may also activate.

Outdoors

* If you are outdoors, stay there. Move away from buildings, overhangs, streetlights, trees, and power lines to a clear area such as a large open public area or field.

Moving Vehicle

* Stop as quickly as safety permits and stay in the vehicle. Avoid stopping near or under buildings, trees, overpasses, and utility wires.
* Proceed cautiously once the earthquake has stopped.
* Avoid roads, bridges, or ramps that might have been damaged by the earthquake.

Additional information on earthquakes and how to prepare can be found at: <https://www.ready.gov/earthquakes>