

EARTHQUAKE

An earthquake is a violent moving or shaking of the earth's crust, generally caused by a release of tectonic stress along fault lines. Earthquakes are impossible to predict and rare in New Jersey, as such most buildings in this State are not designed to withstand a significant quake and may sustain damage creating hazards during and after the event. The following are important safety considerations in case of an earthquake:

Actions While Indoors:

- Get under tables or desks (if available), door arch or stairwell and stay away from large windows, shelving systems or tall room partitions.
- Do not use elevators, in case of aftershocks.
- Implement the "Drop, Cover and Hold" procedure by doing the following:
 - Drop to your knees with back to windows and knees together.
 - Cover your neck by clasping both hands firmly behind your head.
 - Bury your face in your arms, protecting your head.
 - Close your eyes tightly.
- Hold that position (stay there) until subsequent instructions are given. Instructions will depend upon circumstances and the extent of damage to the building.
- As soon as possible, move away from windows and out from under the heavy suspended light fixtures.
- Identify what equipment you should shut down if time permits.
- Make sure latches on cabinets, process tanks, storage tanks and closets are secured.
- Keep breakable and heavy objects on lower shelves whenever possible.
- Report the names and locations of injured persons to the Rutgers University Police Department by dialing 9-1-1. The alternate RUPD phone numbers are: New Brunswick 732-932-7111, Newark 973-353-5111 or 973-972-4491, Camden 856-225-6111.
- Be prepared for aftershocks. Earthquakes sometimes occur in a series of tremors, which could last for a period of several days. Aftershocks may last from a few seconds to as long as 5 minutes.
- **Do Not Activate** the building's **Fire Alarm**, unless there is a fire related event, there is an increase of injury while outdoors due to falling building debris.

Action While Outdoors:

- Walk away from buildings, trees, power line poles and exposed wires.
- Implement the "Drop, Cover and Hold" procedure.,
 - Drop to your knees with back to windows and knees together.
 - Cover your neck by clasping both hands firmly behind your head.
 - Bury your face in your arms, protecting your head.
 - Close your eyes tightly.
 - Cover your ears and as much skin as possible
- Hold that position (stay in the open) until subsequent instructions are given or until the earthquake is over. Don't go near anything where there is a danger of falling debris.
- Report the names and locations of injured persons to the Rutgers University Police Department by dialing 9-1-1. The alternate RUPD phone numbers are: New Brunswick 732-932-7111, Newark 973-353-5111 or 973-972-4491, Camden 856-225-6111.
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