

# Be Aware and Prepare: Earthquakes in Arkansas

What can you do to protect yourself and your property? Think ahead. Be aware and prepare. Follow the simple guidelines outlined below.

## Be Aware. Stay Aware.

- Earthquakes generally occur without warning. Occasionally, though, earthquakes occur in swarms or clusters over a period of days or weeks.
- Know which parts of the state are more prone to earthquakes. Most of the earthquake activity in Arkansas has occurred in northeast and north-central Arkansas, but there have been earthquakes scattered throughout the state. Faulkner County has a significant amount of earthquake activity. For more information on locating earthquake epicenters in Arkansas, go to <http://quake.ualr.edu/public/epicenters.htm>.

## Plan and Prepare.

- Put together an emergency plan. You can find an easy-to-use planning tool at [www.ready.gov/make-a-plan](http://www.ready.gov/make-a-plan).
- Plan for places where your family can meet in case evacuation is necessary. Make sure each family member has a way to get there.
- Assemble an emergency kit. Include water, nonperishable food, first aid supplies and prescription medicines, flashlights, battery powered radio, clothing, blankets, mosquito repellent, personal hygiene supplies, cash, credit cards, emergency contacts and phone numbers.
- Identify safe and protected places in and outside of your home where you can shelter during an earthquake: along walls, inside door frames, under sturdy furniture. Make sure these places are away from windows, tall cabinets and furniture that can fall.
- Keep heavy objects (large pictures, mirrors) on walls away from places where people sit or sleep.
- Protect valuable documents and financial papers such as birth and marriage certificates, business records, insurance policies, deeds and credit card information in a safe deposit box. If possible, scan and save on a flash drive that you can carry if you need to evacuate.
- Make an inventory of your property and belongings. Include the purchase price and date of purchase of each item. Video or photograph items and store inventory with your other valuables.
- Keep your home prepared: fasten shelves and water heaters to walls, keep heavy objects on lower shelves, store breakables, flammables and toxic products in enclosed cabinets.
- Know how to turn off gas and electricity to your home and property.

**For more information:**  
**[www.aragriculture.org/disaster/](http://www.aragriculture.org/disaster/)**



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