

The State of Washington



Proclamation

WHEREAS, the state of Washington has the second highest risk from damaging earthquakes in the United States, and scientific evidence indicates that Washington is vulnerable to additional earthquakes in the future; and

WHEREAS, the loss of life and property can be greatly reduced if appropriate earthquake preparedness and mitigation measures are taken before a damaging quake; and

WHEREAS, Washington's workforce must be prepared in their homes, so they may continue to provide essential services after an earthquake supporting the state's disaster response mission with the peace of mind that their families are prepared; and

WHEREAS, the time it takes for our state to recover following a significant earthquake will be greatly reduced by a well-prepared workforce and communities; and

WHEREAS, the people of Washington can hasten this recovery by being prepared at work and at home, and are thus strongly encouraged to be "two weeks ready; and

WHEREAS, coastal communities in Washington are at risk, not only from earthquakes but devastating tsunamis; and

WHEREAS, in the midst of the COVID-19 Pandemic, more Washingtonians may find themselves in alternate locations from work or school, which provides an opportunity to both practice earthquake safety in those new locations and secure those spaces before an earthquake; and

WHEREAS, minimizing the potential for injury during future earthquakes and tsunamis depends on the ability to rapidly take personal protective actions, and quickly evacuate from tsunami inundation zones; and

WHEREAS, the Washington State Military Department's Emergency Management Division, in conjunction with its Great Washington ShakeOut campaign, leads the statewide "Drop, Cover, and Hold On" drill and coastal tsunami siren test, to be held on Oct. 15, 2020 at 10:15 a.m.;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Jay Inslee, Governor of the state of Washington, recommend that all state agencies register for and participate in

The Great Washington ShakeOut Earthquake Drill

at 10:15 a.m. on October 15, 2020. Thank you for participating, knowing what to do during an earthquake will help us avoid the added and unnecessary trauma of being caught unprepared when an earthquake strikes.

Signed this 23rd day of September, 2020

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Jay Inslee".

Governor Jay Inslee

