



Office of the Adjutant General
2779 Fish Hatchery Rd.
West Columbia, S.C. 29172
Phone (803) 737-8500 Fax (803) 737-8570

NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

Contact: Joe Farmer, Public Information Director
John Legare, Public Information Coordinator
(803) 737-8500

Earthquake Awareness Week Coming Up

COLUMBIA, S.C. (Nov. 4, 2005)—South Carolina Governor Mark Sanford has declared that Earthquake Awareness Week for 2005 will be observed November 6-12 in South Carolina.

The South Carolina Emergency Management Division is sponsoring the week. The week will serve to remind people that earthquakes pose a significant threat to South Carolina year-round and citizens need to take proper precautions.

The highlight of the week will be the annual statewide earthquake drill. State Superintendent of Education Inez Tenenbaum is encouraging schools statewide to participate. In addition to schools, many nursing homes, hospitals, county and municipal agencies, amateur radio operators, and others also are expected to take part. The drill will be held on the morning of Wednesday, Nov. 9, at 9:30 a.m. and will be announced over National Weather Service tone-alert weather radio statewide. The drill is designed to give participants the opportunity to test their safety plans.

In an effort to assist schools in creating earthquake plans, the South Carolina Emergency Management Division has produced a brochure titled *Earthquake Preparedness for Schools* that is available on the Division's website www.scemd.org. This publication will provide guidance for creating an earthquake plan including information on the planning process, hazard identification, conducting earthquake drills, response and care, communications and post-earthquake sheltering.

For more information on Earthquake Awareness Week, contact your county emergency management agency or the State Emergency Management Division at www.scemd.org.

-END-