
Emergency Preparedness ■ Earthquakes

■ Individual and Group Safety Information

The following are important safety considerations for individuals BEFORE and/or DURING an earthquake:

- Look around your area and decide where the safe spots are located, such as under sturdy tables, desks or against inside walls.
- Identify what equipment you should shut down if time permits.
- Store flammable and hazardous chemicals in proper cabinets.
- Keep breakable and heavy objects on lower shelves whenever possible.
- Make sure latches on cabinets, process tanks, storage tanks and closets are secured.
- Stay indoors if already there. If you're in a high-rise building, do not use the elevator or man lifts.
- If you're outdoors, stay in the open, away from buildings, trees and power lines. Don't go near anything where there is a danger of falling debris.
- Never take shelter in buildings with wide, free-span roofs (such as Moore Fieldhouse).
- Avoid all windows and other glassed areas.

The following are important safety considerations for individuals AFTER an earthquake:

- Check for injuries and follow first-aid procedures.
- 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.
- Don't re-enter damaged buildings. Aftershocks could knock them down.
- Be alert for gas and water leaks, broken electrical wiring, downed electrical lines, or ruptured sewer lines. Whenever possible, turn the utility off at the source. If you do enter a building, use atmospheric

testing equipment to check for leaking chemical or gas lines. If problems are detected, leave the building quickly, and notify your supervisor.

- Know your shutdown procedures.