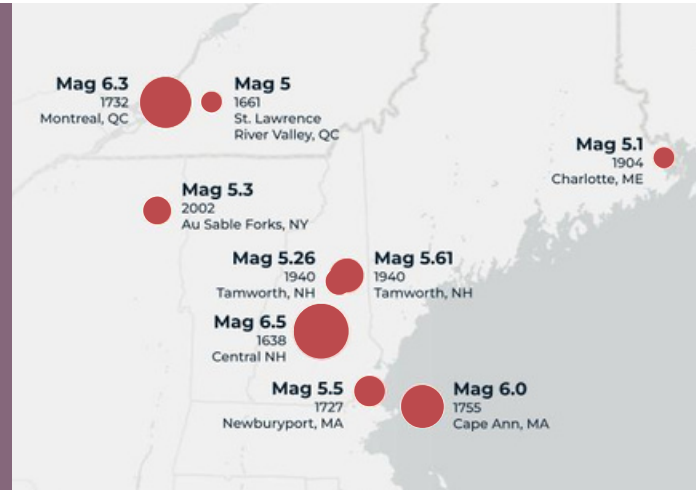


Be PREPARED for an EARTHQUAKE

New England has been impacted by several strong earthquakes greater than Magnitude 5.0. Learn how to protect yourself, your loved ones, and your property.



Did you know...

In April of 2024, a **magnitude 4.8 earthquake** was felt by **tens of millions of people** along the East Coast.*

BEFORE AN EARTHQUAKE

- **Secure your stuff.** Most injuries are caused by falling or moving objects.
 - Store heavy things on low shelves and cabinets. Install latches on cabinet doors.
 - Attach tall, heavy furniture to the wall and floor.
 - Move beds and cribs away from windows and lock their wheels.
- Know how to **shut off electricity, gas, and water.**
- **Move heavy pictures** away from sitting and sleeping areas.
- Keep a pair of **sturdy shoes** handy to walk through debris.
- Consider purchasing **insurance.**

Have a **professional help** you with:

- Repairing deep cracks in ceilings or foundations.
- Replacing defective electrical wiring and leaky gas connections.
- Replacing inflexible utility connections with flexible ones.

Secure your stuff!



* Johnson, U.S. News & World Report.

Image courtesy of Vecteezy.com

DURING AN EARTHQUAKE

IF YOU'RE INDOORS:

- **Drop, cover, and hold on!** Drop to your hands and knees. Crouch under a sturdy table, protect your head and neck, and hold on. If no shelter is nearby, crawl to an interior wall.
- Using a walker or wheelchair, lock the wheels or set the brake. **Lock, cover, and hold on!**
- **DO NOT walk in or out of buildings.**
- **DO NOT get in an elevator or stairwell.**

IF YOU'RE OUTDOORS:

- **Stay outside in a clear area.** Kneel or sit down and cover your head.
- **Avoid hazards** such as downed power lines, broken pipes, and sinkholes.

IF YOU'RE IN YOUR CAR:

- Pull over, set the brake, and **stay in your car.**
- If you're near a **downed power line**, stay in your car, and **call 9-1-1.**

Walking without assistance or with a cane...

DROP



COVER



HOLD ON!



Using a walker or a wheelchair...

LOCK



COVER



HOLD ON!



Graphics courtesy of Earthquake Country Alliance

AFTER AN EARTHQUAKE

- **Evacuate immediately if there is a...**
 - Fire: Stay low and go.
 - Gas smell: Open a window and shut off the gas at the outside main meter.
 - Electrical wire crackling: Shut off the gas first, then turn off the master electrical switch. Stay clear of downed wires.
 - Broken pipe: Shut off the main water valve.
 - Structural damage: Large cracks in the foundation or walls
- **Text family and friends.** Texting uses less bandwidth than calls.
- Aftershocks can follow an earthquake. **Make home repairs.**
- **Contact your insurance company.** Take photos of the damage.

PVD311 Online
City Services

Call 211
United Way of RI

Call 988
Emotional Support

Call 9-1-1
to report emergencies,
downed power lines,
and gas leaks.