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## EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT DEPARTMENT

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February 9, 2011

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### EARTHQUAKE AWARENESS MONTH IN KENTUCKY

BURLINGTON, KENTUCKY (February 9, 2011) – Governor Beshear has proclaimed February as Earthquake Awareness Month in Kentucky. Boone County Emergency Management suggests that we prepare for the often overlooked earthquake hazard in Kentucky.

The first step is to identify hazards. Typical hazards include wall and ceiling mounted objects, freestanding bookshelves and file cabinets, and other objects which may fall causing injury. Many of these hazards can be corrected by properly anchoring the objects to the wall or ceiling.

Put together a disaster supplies kit including a three day supply of water, food you don't have to refrigerate or cook, portable radio, first aid kit, blankets, an adjustable wrench and other basic tools, flashlight, work gloves, emergency cooking equipment, essential medications, and extra batteries.

Develop a plan for what you would do after an earthquake. Consider multiple exit routes, learn how to shut off the water, gas and electric and plan how and where to communicate with and reunite with others.

In the event of an earthquake - DUCK to the floor, take COVER under a sturdy desk or table, and HOLD on to it. Stay away from freestanding furniture, appliances, large panes of glass and other objects which may break or fall and injure you.

To practice you might consider participating in the Great Central U.S. Shakeout. On April 28, 2011 at 10:15 a.m. Kentuckians and our Central U.S. neighbors, from all walks of life to include businesses and governments, are encouraged to participate in the "Great Central U.S. Shake Out". The Shake Out is an opportunity to practice the "Drop, Cover, Hold" earthquake drill, promote awareness, and to educate and prepare ourselves for the risks and possibilities of earthquakes.

To register as a Shakeout participant, access useful resources and links or obtain more information go to: <http://www.shakeout.org/centralus> For more information contact your local Emergency Management Department. Boone County residents may call Boone County Emergency Management at 334-2279.

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