



▶ OPERATION GOLDEN GUARDIAN AIMS TO PREPARE CITIZENS FOR THE "BIG ONE".....1



▶ RED RIBBON WEEK IS COMING!!.....2



▶ SURVIVE THE NEXT QUAKE BY FOLLOWING THESE SIMPLE TIPS.....2

○ October | ○ 2008

Neighborhood Watch newsletter

WHITTIER POLICE DEPARTMENT'S MONTHLY SOURCE FOR CRIME PREVENTION INFORMATION

Operation Golden Guardian Whittier PD Seeks Participants for Large Scale Disaster Drill

Operation Golden Guardian, also known as "The Great Southern California Shake Out," is the name of the exercise that all of California public entities have been encouraged to participate in next month. While the exercise carries two names, they both involve the same scenario.

On November 13th at 10:00am, the City of Whittier will participate in a full scale exercise with the Los Angeles County Fire Department, our two local hospitals, the Whittier City School District and East Whittier City School District. Our ability to coordinate an emergency response with these groups in a large scale disaster is critical to the safety of our residents.

The exercise scenario simulates a magnitude 7.8 earthquake that begins near the Salton Sea and affects the entire southern San Andreas Fault. Experts from numerous fields tell us this quake will cause massive damage to infrastructure including the closure of Interstates 5, 10 and 15, shutting down rail access, rupturing major fuel lines and downing electrical

transmission lines through the Cajon Pass. The shaking from the start of the quake to the end would last over **two minutes!** For comparison purposes, the shaking in the Northridge Earthquake lasted about 7 seconds.

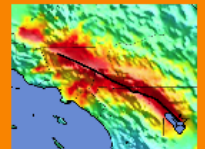
The Whittier Police Department would like to encourage Neighborhood Watch groups to organize events such as "Drop, Cover and Hold On" drills for their members and/or hold NHW meetings leading up to the event that stress emergency preparedness.

While various scholars and experts differ in opinion over when a large quake could happen, all agree that it WILL happen. To prepare for such an event The Great Southern California Shake Out is very realistic. We are long overdue for a major earthquake on the Southern San Andreas and when it happens, emergency responders will be stretched far beyond their normal capacities for many days. For this reason, it is imperative that individuals and families prepare themselves to be self-sustained for a minimum of three days.

The Great Southern California ShakeOut

At 10 a.m. on November 13, join millions of Southern Californians in the *ShakeOut Drill*, the largest earthquake preparedness activity in U.S. history!

The Great Southern California ShakeOut includes the ShakeOut Drill and other events to help us get ready for big earthquakes, and to prevent disasters from becoming catastrophes.



Main Activities

[Shake Out Drill](#) (November 13)

[International Earthquake Conference](#) (November 12-14)

[Los Angeles Earthquake: Get Ready Rally](#) (November 14)

[Take One More Step](#) (November 14-16)

In collaboration with [Golden Guardian 2008](#) (November 13-18)

NHW groups can obtain more information about the exercise and how individuals and families can participate by going to <http://www.shakeout.org>. Furthermore, please contact Officer Jason Zuhlke for information pertaining to how YOUR neighborhood can participate. The Whittier Police Department would also like to encourage residents to take advantage of free Emergency Preparedness information available at no charge. Call 562.945.8282 for either of the above.



Whittier Police Department to Celebrate Red Ribbon Week

Save the date for this year's Red Ribbon Week! Red Ribbon Week will take place October 23-31, 2008. As in year's past, the Whittier Police Department will be visiting numerous schools throughout the city to speak with students about the importance of making good decisions when it comes to drug prevention and awareness. Talk to your son or daughter about the Whittier Police Department coming to their school! As parents, your support and guidance is instrumental when it comes to drug prevention. **Lastly, save the date for the Red Ribbon Pancake Breakfast:**

October 25th 8:00 – 11:00am. East Whittier Middle School.

Festivities will include: Pancake Breakfast, Whittier PD Displays, LACO Fire, Bounce House, Rock Climbing Wall, and much more...

27 Things to Help You Survive an Earthquake

Californians are constantly aware that earthquakes can cause damage and create dangerous conditions. If you don't prepare, the next quake or aftershock may cause greater personal damage than necessary. The tips listed below won't stop the shaking; but they can help you survive and prevent injuries.

During an Earthquake and its Aftershocks

- Drop, cover, and hold on!
- Inside: Take cover under a desk or table, or against an inside wall. Protect your body from things that could injure you. In bed, cover yourself with pillows and blankets.
- Outside: Move away from buildings, trees, billboards, telephone and electric lines.
- In a car: Drive away from bridges, underpasses, overpasses; stop in a safe area; stay in vehicle until shaking stops.

After the Shaking Stops

- Check for injuries – provide first aid.
- Check for safety – check for gas, water, and sewage breaks; check for downed electric lines and shorts; turn off appropriate utilities; turn off gas only if you see, smell or hear gas escaping; check for building damage and potential safety problems such as cracks around chimney and foundation.
- Check for fires. Extinguish them or leave the building.

- Wear sturdy shoes.
- Turn on the radio and listen for instructions from public safety agencies.
- Don't use the telephone except for life-threatening emergencies.

Do You Have These?

- Portable radio with extra batteries
 - Flashlight with extra batteries
 - First aid supplies – including your prescription medications, an extra pair of glasses and a first aid book
 - Fire extinguisher, A-B-C type
 - Adjustable wrench for turning off gas and water
 - Smoke alarm properly installed
 - Portable fire escape ladder for homes and apartments with multiple floors
 - Bottled water – at least 1 gallon per person per day
 - Canned and processed foods sufficient for a week for each member of your household.
- NOTE: Both water and food should be replaced every six months.
- Non-electric can opener

- Portable stove such as butane or charcoal. NOTE: Do not use stoves until you are sure there is no gas leak nearby. Use charcoal outdoors only. Use of charcoal indoors will cause carbon monoxide poisoning.
- Matches
- Telephone numbers of police, fire and doctor

Do You Know How To:

- Turn off gas, water and electricity?
- Give First Aid?
- Reunite with your family?
- Protect yourself and stay safe?

American Red Cross Rio Hondo Chapter
6706 S. Friends Ave., Whittier, CA 90601

To register for first aid, CPR or another course call (562) 945-3944 or log on to www.arcariohondo.org Rio Hondo Chapter



Whittier Police Department

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