



VITEMA VIRGIN ISLANDS TERRITORIAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY

8221 NISKY, ST. THOMAS, VI 00802
TEL. (340) 774-2244 FAX (340) 715-6847

2164 KING CROSS, CHRISTIANSTED, VI 00820-0840
TEL. (340) 773-2244 FAX (340) 778-8980

6 SUSANNABERG, ST. JOHN, VI 00830
TEL. (340) 776-6444 FAX (340) 779-4266

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

October 8, 2024

J'Lisa Martinez
Public Information Officer
VITEMA
340-201-3409
jlisa.martinez@vitema.vi.gov

VITEMA Encourages Participation in The Great ShakeOut Earthquake Drill

October 8, 2024 – The Virgin Islands Territorial Emergency Management Agency (VITEMA), is proud to announce its participation in The Great ShakeOut 2024, the largest earthquake drill in history, scheduled to take place on October 17, 2024, at 10:17 AM local time.

The Great ShakeOut is an annual event aimed at raising awareness about earthquake preparedness and practicing proper safety procedures in the event of a tremor. By participating in this drill, residents can learn how to protect themselves and others during an earthquake, as well as reduce the risk of injuries and damage. Last year the USVI had 22,858 participants, let's see if we can do even more this year. As of today, there are 5,264 participants registered in the US Virgin Islands.

“We encourage all residents, businesses, schools, and organizations to take part in The Great ShakeOut on October 17 at 10:17 AM,” said VITEMA’s Director, Daryl Jaschen. “It is crucial that we are all prepared and know what to do in the event of an earthquake to ensure our safety and well-being.”

During the drill, participants are advised to DROP, COVER, and HOLD ON to protect themselves from falling debris and possible injury. Schools and workplaces are encouraged to review their emergency procedures and ensure that everyone knows what to do during a quake. There will be test alert messages sent out to alert you of the exercise, it will also be broadcasted on several radio stations to add an auditory component. Please remember that these will all be tests.

To register for The Great ShakeOut and receive resources and information on earthquake preparedness, please visit www.shakeout.org/register. Join us in making the entire U.S. Virgin Islands a safer place for all by participating in this important event. Also remember to sign up for ALERT VI to stay informed on emergency situations.

For more information, please visit vitema.vi.gov or email contact@vitema.vi.gov.

VITEMA - St. Croix – 340-773-2244 – St. John – 340-776-2244 – St. Thomas – 340-774-2244 -
Be Prepared, Stay Informed, and Be Vigilant!
