

Montana Disaster & Emergency Services Division

The Montana Earthquake Hazard Reduction Program continues to demonstrate successful efforts within our state by providing information, training, television programs and support to communities expressing an interest in earthquake preparedness.

Earthquake Preparedness Month, recognized in October, continues its success and is probably the most consistent thing we do to promote earthquake education in Montana. Lewis & Clark County shines as Montana's example in how local emergency managers can take the lead in preparing their communities for earthquakes – and other hazards. Great efforts are made to educate schools, businesses and other groups and present them with information they need to be better informed on risk, preparedness efforts, and the Drop, Cover and Hold Drill. Drills have become an important and expected part of the overall efforts taken within this county to advocate citizen preparedness.

Additionally, communities and schools throughout Montana conduct earthquake drills as part of their yearly drill requirements. Overall, the program does well but most efforts and expectations are limited due to a lack of resources.

Submitted by Monique Lay, Earthquake Program Manager, Montana Disaster & Emergency Services Division