

PCEMA

*Pacific County Emergency Management Agency*

# Preparedness Post

Volume 2, Issue 12 October 2013

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**October 17th**

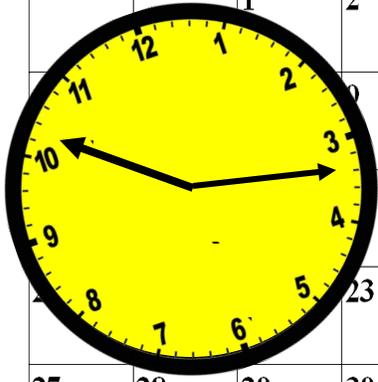
**GREAT SHAKEOUT DRILL**

**AHAB SIREN TEST**

**EMERGENCY  
NOTIFICATION  
SYSTEM TEST**

## 2013 OCTOBER

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1	2	3	4	5
		8	9	10	11	12
		15	16	17	18	19
		22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		



## Emergency Notification System Test After ShakeOut

In conjunction with the Great Washington ShakeOut and AHAB Siren test, PCEMA will also test the use of the emergency notification system, calling all landlines and registered cell and VoIP phones in the county. Calls are expected to take place during the afternoon and evening on October 17th. To receive emergency notifications on your cell or VoIP phone, you must register at [www.hyperreach.com/wapacificsignup.html](http://www.hyperreach.com/wapacificsignup.html). (See Page 3 for more information on the emergency notification system.)

## Tsunami Sirens to Sound During ShakeOut

The Pacific County All Hazard Alert Broadcast (AHAB) outdoor sirens will be tested as part of the Great Washington ShakeOut on Thursday, October 17, 2013, at 10:17 a.m. with the actual tsunami siren tone (a three minute wail), preceded and followed by a verbal message. The AHAB sirens in Pacific County and the other outer Washington coastal counties are being activated to conduct a true “end-to-end” test of the entire tsunami warning system. The sirens recently installed in South Bend and Raymond will be included in the test. NOAA weather radios set to receive the required monthly test will also activate during this test.

This test will help familiarize residents with the sound made by the AHAB sirens during an actual tsunami warning. It will differ from the routine monthly testing that occurs on the first Monday of each month since it will broadcast an audible siren wail tone for the full three minute warning instead of a chime tone. The voice message will differ slightly from the monthly test and will include the following: “This is a test of the AHAB system. If you are in a low coastal area test your evacuation route now. If this had been a real emergency, you should follow evacuation routes. Move to higher ground or inland now. Do not delay. Do not return until directed to do so. Tune Into your local radio stations for further instructions. This was only a test.”



“Move to higher ground or inland now. Do not delay. Do not return until directed to do so.”

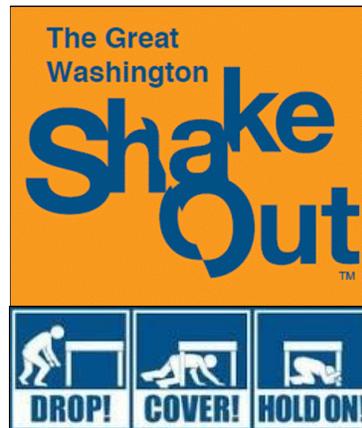
Pacific County residents are encouraged to participate in the Great Washington ShakeOut by registering at [www.shakeout.org/washington/](http://www.shakeout.org/washington/) and by conducting a personal drill such as Drop, Cover, and Hold or an evacuation walk.

# Drop, Cover, and Hold On for ShakeOut Drill 10-17-2013 at 10:17 a.m.

On October 17th at 10:17 a.m., millions of people across the world will practice how to drop, cover, and hold as participants in Great ShakeOut Earthquake Drills. 750,000 people have already registered in Washington State alone. Over 4,000 people have registered in Pacific County. Many of the registered participants are from schools, local government, and area businesses.

Participating is a great way for your family or organization to be prepared to survive and recover quickly from big earthquakes – wherever you live, work, or travel. To register visit [www.shakeout.org/washington/](http://www.shakeout.org/washington/).

Wherever you are at 10:17 a.m. on October 17th, you should drop, cover, and hold for at least 60 seconds, as if an earthquake was actually occurring.



To participate in the ShakeOut you won't need to leave work or school. Participating at places where you spend a lot of time is encouraged! Businesses, organizations, schools, and government agencies can register and have their employees practice drop, cover, and hold, or have a more extensive emergency drill.

Register Online at:

[www.shakeout.org/washington/](http://www.shakeout.org/washington/)

# Storm Season Hits Early

Pacific County experienced heavy rain and strong winds, typical of November or December, on September 27th, 28th, and 29th. The average precipitation for a late September day in this area is 0.1 inch. This year areas of Pacific County saw from 0.48 to 3.52 inches in a single day during the storms.

Though high wind and flood warnings were issued by the National Weather Service, the series of storms brought minimal damage. However, the foul weather did cause many residents to stay off the wet, windy, and debris strewn roads.

With winter still to come, these freak September storms should serve to remind residents to plan and prepare for flooding, destructive winds, power outages, and disruption of daily commutes.



# Sign Up for the Emergency Notification System!

Effective September 1st, 2013, Pacific County transitioned to a new emergency notification system. The new system will provide emergency notifications using a mix of telephone calls, text and email messages, and even TTY/TDD service.



This system may be used by emergency response personnel to notify specific homes and businesses at risk with specific information about a disaster or emergency event. You will only be called when the associated address will be impacted by the event.

Additionally, this system accommodates special needs and weather alerts. Please be sure to visit the sign up page and enter your VoIP phone (if you use Comcast - you're using VoIP!), mobile phone number or even update your landline information. If you registered your cellular or VoIP phone numbers prior to September 1, 2013 you are encouraged to re-register. The new system can be personalized based on your needs and the type of notifications you wish to receive.

# Unexpected Power Outage Felt Across County

On the morning of October 3rd, many Pacific County residents awoke to find that their homes were without electricity, just in time to get ready for work or school. An issue with a Bonneville Power Administration (BPA) transmission line caused the outage.

Many people used social media to post questions and comments as power was restored to some areas but remained disrupted in others. Because this extensive outage occurred in fair weather, many speculated that it may have been related to the ongoing "government shutdown."

Though power was restored within the day, the outage served as a reminder that even in the best of weather, loss of electricity can be seriously disruptive for the entire community. Be sure to have flashlights and extra batteries in an accessible place for future outages. If you have a generator, be sure it is properly installed and make certain you know how to safely operate it before the lights go out again.

# No Power, No Water?

If you get your water from a well, you are likely dependent on electricity to get running water into your home. Before a storm where power outages are likely to occur, be sure to fill your bathtub or other large containers with water. This water can be very helpful for manually flushing a toilet (especially if it's in the bathtub a few feet away). If you aren't keen to drink water from your bathtub, store drinking water beforehand in your emergency supply kit.

Register Online at:  
[www.hyper-reach.com/wapacificsignup.html](http://www.hyper-reach.com/wapacificsignup.html)

# Share Your ShakeOut Photos on the PCEMA Facebook Page!

PCEMA wants to see how your ShakeOut drill went! Head over to PCEMA's Facebook page to post your home, school, or work participation photos!

[www.facebook.com/pcema](http://www.facebook.com/pcema)



Have one gallon of water for each person in your household per day to use for drinking and hygiene needs.

# It Takes a Community to Train a CERT!

On September 27th, 28th, and October 5th, eleven participants attended a PCEMA sponsored Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) training hosted by the Surfside Homeowners Association at their headquarters.

The training was coordinated by PCEMA volunteer Mary Atherton, who also served as instructor for the Disaster Preparedness, CERT Organization, and Disaster Psychology portions of the course. Connie Biggs and David Allsup from Pacific County Fire District #1 volunteered to teach Disaster Medical Operations and Fire Safety. Long Beach Police Officer Casey Meling taught Terrorism and CERT. South Pacific County Technical Rescue volunteer Doug Knutzen taught Search and Rescue.

Eleven participants graduated the course on October 5th after a written exam and practical disaster simulation exercise.



Connie Biggs (Pacific County Fire District #1) demonstrates disaster medical response techniques with a class participant.



Casey Meling (Long Beach Police Department) explains how to respond to a terrorist incident.



David Allsup (Pacific County Fire District #1) prepares participants to operate a fire extinguisher during the fire safety unit.



The training was hosted by the Surfside Homeowners Association and many Surfside residents attended.



Doug Knutzen (South Pacific County Technical Rescue) demonstrates a victim carry with the help of Mary Atherton (course coordinator) and a class participant.

# Welcome Eleven New CERTs!



These newly trained CERTs attended twenty hours of training and are now capable of responding with confidence and know-how when disaster strikes.



Above (and inset): CERTs practiced their triage and disaster medical operations techniques during the disaster simulation.

Top Right: CERTs learned to operate a fire extinguisher under the supervision of David Allsup (Pacific County Fire District #1).

Middle/Bottom Right: Victim volunteers wore moulage injury makeup to enhance their performances during the disaster simulation. The victim volunteers were given a scenario and acted out the symptoms of their injuries.

# CERT: If You Bring Them We Will Come!

Is your group interested in hosting a CERT training? PCEMA is happy to work with area clubs and organizations to coordinate training. The ideal class size is 10-15 participants and the venue should be ADA compliant and accommodate classroom instruction with a space for practical exercises. Contact PCEMA Deputy Director Denise Rowlett ([drowlett@co.pacific.wa.us](mailto:drowlett@co.pacific.wa.us)) to learn more.

The CERT program is an all-risk, all-hazard training. This valuable course is designed to help you protect yourself, your family, your neighbors, and your neighborhood in an emergency situation. CERT members receive 20 hours of initial training provided free of charge. All training materials will be provided.

The training is valuable for groups and individuals alike!



# PCEMA

Pacific County Emergency Management Agency

## UPCOMING EVENTS

**AHAB Siren Test - First Monday of the month @ noon - Page 3**

Pacific County Amateur Radio Club Meeting - 2nd Saturday of the month @ 9 a.m. - Hunter's Inn, Naselle

**Great Washington Shakeout - October 17th at 10:17 a.m. - Page 2**

**Tsunami Siren Test - October 17th at 10:17 a.m. - Page 2**

**Emergency Notification System Test - October 17th - Page 2**

## STAY CONNECTED WITH PCEMA

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**LIKE** the PCEMA Facebook page at [www.facebook.com/pcema](http://www.facebook.com/pcema) to follow frequent emergency management and preparedness dialogue.

**FOLLOW** @PCEOCNews on Twitter to get updates from the Pacific County EOC when activated. If you are not signed up for Twitter, you can receive the same information via text message. Just text "follow PCEOCNews" to 40404.

**RECEIVE** the latest emergency management information, hazardous weather notices, and monthly newsletter by signing up for the PCEMA email list. Provide your name and email to [sfritts@co.pacific.wa.us](mailto:sfritts@co.pacific.wa.us) or [drowlett@co.pacific.wa.us](mailto:drowlett@co.pacific.wa.us) and include the word "Subscribe" in the subject line.

**READ** the latest emergency management information on the PCEMA blog at [www.pcema.blogspot.com](http://www.pcema.blogspot.com).

**VISIT** the PCEMA website at [www.co.pacific.wa.us/pcema](http://www.co.pacific.wa.us/pcema) for valuable preparedness materials and to learn about hazards prone to Pacific County.