

Earthquakes

While earthquakes are not a high risk in the Ithaca area, they are possible here. If you feel the ground shaking, it could be due to an earthquake.

- Duck or drop to the floor.
- Cover yourself under a piece of heavy furniture, a stairwell or a doorjamb (beware of the door swinging back and forth). If that is not possible, position yourself against an interior wall, protecting your head and neck with your arms. Keep away from appliances, large windows and heavy hanging objects.
- Hold on securely and stay covered until the shaking stops.
- Evacuate the building as soon as the shaking stops.

If you are outdoors, move to a clear area away from trees, signs, buildings and electrical wires and poles. If you cannot get to an open area, take shelter in a doorway to protect yourself from falling debris.

If you are driving, pull over to the side of the road and stop. Avoid overpasses, power lines and other hazards. Stay inside the vehicle until the shaking stops. Once the shaking has stopped, proceed cautiously. Avoid bridges and ramps that may have been damaged.

After the shaking has stopped:

- Anticipate aftershocks, and plan where you will take cover from them.
- Check for injuries.
- Give first aid as necessary.
- Remain calm.
- Avoid broken glass.
- Check for fire. Take appropriate actions and precautions.
- Check gas, water and electric lines. If they appear damaged, or if you smell gas, open windows and leave the building immediately. Contact Facilities Customer Service at 5-5322 (or 255-5322 from a cell phone) immediately.
- Replace all telephone receivers and use the phone for emergencies only.
- Tune to an emergency broadcast station on radio or television. Listen for emergency bulletins.
- Stay out of damaged buildings.

