



December 1, 2017

## No Earthquake Impacts in the District of Columbia

*On November 30, 2017, at 4:47 p.m. EST, a 4.1-magnitude earthquake occurred near Dover, Delaware, approximately 90 miles from the District of Columbia.* The earthquake was felt in the District and as far north as New York, with areas around the Dover epicenter reporting the strongest activity.

- The Delaware Emergency Management Agency stated there have been no immediate reports of injuries or major damages associated with the earthquake. According to the United States Geological Survey (USGS), earthquakes of this magnitude may disturb windows, doors, or items on shelves.
- There have been no reports of aftershocks. Additionally, because the earthquake was land-centered, there is no risk of secondary natural hazards such as a tsunami to the region.



Regional extent of tremors from November 30 earthquake.  
 Photo courtesy of USGS

***DC’s Homeland Security and Emergency Management Agency (HSEMA) reports no injuries or infrastructure damage in the District.*** Earthquakes affecting the National Capital Region are rare.

- On August 23, 2011, a 5.8-magnitude earthquake struck about 40 miles northwest of Richmond, Virginia, damaging various buildings in the District. The same earthquake was followed by a 2.8-magnitude aftershock 45 minutes later.
- In the District, government office buildings were evacuated and the Metro operated at reduced speeds, while several iconic locations suffered damage, most notably the Washington Monument and Washington National Cathedral.

### ***HSEMA reminds residents there are several ways to prepare for an earthquake:***

- Stay informed by signing up for emergency alert and warning notifications via email, text, or voice. Visit [alertdc.dc.gov](http://alertdc.dc.gov) and click “Sign Up for Alerts.”
- Practice how to drop, cover, and hold on. To learn more, visit: [ready.dc.gov](http://ready.dc.gov).
- Build or re-stock your [emergency kit](#).
- Make a [plan](#). Your family may not be in one place when an earthquake strikes. It’s important to know how you will contact one another, how and where you will meet, and what you will do in case of an emergency. Plan how to communicate if you lose power.



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