March is Earthquake Awareness Month. Oregon Emergency Management will educate Oregon residents about earthquake risks through outreach to local communities throughout the month.

"Oregon is at risk for a major earthquake similar in size to the Japan earthquake that struck two years ago," said Martin Plotner, Director, Oregon Emergency Management. "We are working with local communities to teach citizens how to prepare."

Oregon is located in the Cascadia Subduction Zone, a fault line stretching from California to British Columbia. Scientists predict a major quake could strike our state within the next 50 years.

Gov. Kitzhaber's Oregon Seismic Safety Policy Commission will host a press conference highlighting the Oregon Resilience Plan on Monday, March 11 at 9:00 a.m. in the Chinook Room at the Port of Portland, 7200 NE Airport Way, Portland, Ore.

The Oregon Resilience Plan outlines Oregon's earthquake risks and makes recommendations for short and long term investments aimed at reducing earthquake and tsunami vulnerabilities.

Oregon Emergency Management will be on the Oregon Coast March 11-23 for a series of public presentations on earthquake and tsunami safety. Residents will learn how to build an emergency kit and prepare for a potential disaster.

The first tsunami presentation is scheduled for March 11, in Seaside from 7-8:30 p.m. at the Broadway Middle School Library, 1120 Broadway St., Seaside, Ore. A full schedule for the tsunami presentations is available on the Oregon Emergency Management website at www.oregon.gov/OMD/OEM.

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