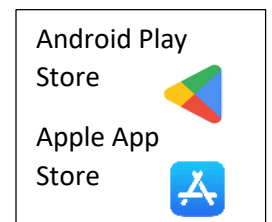# GUIDE TO INSTALLING SELECTED EMERGENCY ALERT APPS ON YOUR SMARTPHONE

This guide is the result of a partnership between the EPO and the Computer Club. It is based on a shared mission of serving our community and bettering the lives of those in Rossmoor.

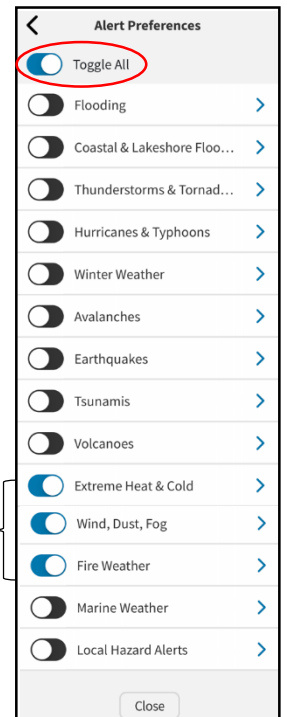**How to add apps to your Android phone or Apple iPhone**

- Tap the Play Store app (for Android) or the App Store app (for iPhone). ⟶
- In the search box, enter the app's name (FEMA or MyShake – see logos below).
- Select the app by tapping Install (for Android) or Get (for iPhone).
- Locate the newly installed app:
  - For Android: The app will be added to the end of your home screen.
  - For iPhone: depending on your settings, the app will be added to the home screen's 2ⁿᵈ page, or may only appear in the App Library (final home page).
- Note for iPhone: depending on your settings, you may be prompted to enter your Apple ID and password to install the app.

Android Play Store
Apple App Store

The **FEMA app** provides real-time weather and emergency alerts which may be tailored to your needs and geographic location. The app also offers a wealth of information about emergency preparedness and options for assistance in the aftermath of a disaster. After installing the app: Select "Allow Notifications."
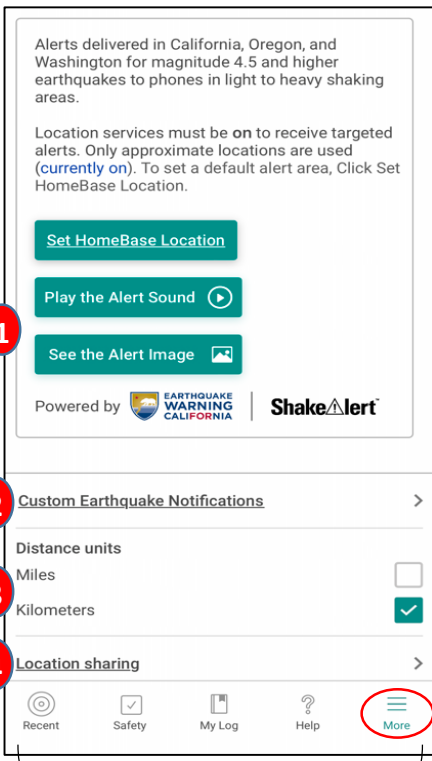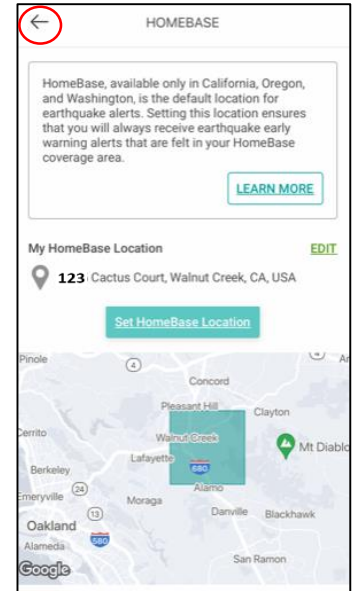
- Enter your name (optional).
- Enter your city or zip code, then tap your city's name to confirm.
- Tap Get Started.
- From the bottom menu, select Alerts
- Tap your city's name and then Alert Preferences.
  - There are numerous types of alerts you may select depending on your preferences. For Walnut Creek, we suggest choosing the 3 options, as designated by the blue "flip switches." ⟶
  - Tip: for ease of selection, first flip the Toggle All button to the left and then choose the Extreme Heat/Cold, Wind/Dust/Fog and Fire by flipping their switches to the right.
  - Note that each selection may be tapped to reveal a submenu of additional options.

The **MyShake** app provides early warning Alerts for <u>active (in progress)</u> earthquakes in California, Oregon and Washington that are expected to be magnitude 4.5 or greater <u>and</u> to generate light to severe shaking *in your location.* Although the app may only provide seconds of warning (based on your proximity to the epicenter), it may still provide sufficient time to drop/cover/hold-on to prevent injury.

- After installing the app, tap to select the following settings. *Note: Sequence and wording of iPhone / Android menus options will differ. Android options may also differ depending on phone model and OS version.*
  - **Use My Location**:
    - iPhone: Allow While Using (will be changed later to Always Allow).
    - Android: select Allow While Using and Precise Location option. Then, select Allow All the Time.
  - **Send Notifications**: select Allow.
  - **Send Critical Alerts**: select Allow (not an option for Android).
  - Agree to **Terms and Conditions** (flip switch at bottom right to confirm).
- Tap Get Started at the bottom of the screen.
- Tap the green Create button to establish your "HomeBase" (location).
- Tap Set HomeBase Location.
  - Enter your address in the space provided, then confirm by tapping the corresponding location from the list. Tap Next.
- Once your HomeBase is set, tap the arrow at the top left (iPhone)
  - Tap Close on the next screen (for Android, tap back button).

HOMEBASE

HomeBase, available only in California, Oregon, and Washington, is the default location for earthquake alerts. Setting this location ensures that you will always receive earthquake early warning alerts that are felt in your HomeBase coverage area.

LEARN MORE

My HomeBase Location   EDIT

123 Cactus Court, Walnut Creek, CA, USA

Set HomeBase Location

Alerts delivered in California, Oregon, and Washington for magnitude 4.5 and higher earthquakes to phones in light to heavy shaking areas.

Location services must be **on** to receive targeted alerts. Only approximate locations are used (currently on). To set a default alert area, Click Set HomeBase Location.

Set HomeBase Location

Play the Alert Sound ▶

See the Alert Image 🖼

Powered by EARTHQUAKE WARNING CALIFORNIA | Shake⚠lert

1

Custom Earthquake Notifications   >

2

Distance units

Miles ☐

3

Kilometers ☑

Location sharing   >

4

Recent   Safety   My Log   Help   More

Select Menu options to explore additional features (for Android, Menu on upper left)

Additional Settings:

Tap "More" in the menu at the bottom right of the screen (for Android, tap upper left menu icon), then tap Settings

1. **Play the Alert Sound** and **See the Alert Image** – Tap to familiarize yourself with how the alert will sound and appear when triggered.
2. **Custom Earthquake Notifications –** Tap to set up <u>after</u>-the-fact earthquake notifications from around the globe (***not*** recommended).
3. **Distance Units** - Tap Miles or Kilometers to select your display preference.
4. **Location Sharing** - Activate / confirm the following settings:
   - **Location** – iPhone: set to Always. Android: set switch to On. *These settings allow receipt of Alerts in CA, WA, and OR <u>outside of</u> the HomeBase area*. Highly recommended!
   - **Notifications** – iPhone only: set following switches to On (green):
     - **Allow Notifications** – generates notification when Alert is received.
     - **Critical Alerts** – generates the Alert sound / image on lock screen and/or if phone is temporarily silenced. Highly recommended.
   - **Cellular data** – This permits the app to function when not connected to Wi-Fi (minor data usage may apply). Highly recommended. For iPhone, set switch to On (green). For Android, go to Settings/Apps/ MyShake. Turn on Background Data and turn off Unrestricted Data.