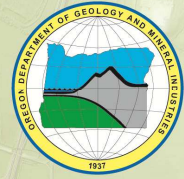


# OREGON DEPARTMENT OF GEOLOGY AND MINERAL INDUSTRIES

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## **Tsunami readiness means knowing evacuation routes**

*With tsunami waves arriving in minutes, getting to high ground is critical*

PORTLAND, Ore. – We know to drop, cover and hold on during an earthquake. But if you're at the Oregon coast, know the very important next step of heading to high ground – and the evacuation routes that will get you there.

A tsunami caused by a Cascadia Subduction Zone earthquake will hit the Oregon coast in as little as 15 minutes. The earthquake will be the only warning that a tsunami's about to arrive.

"As soon as the ground stops shaking, you need to be ready to move to higher ground," says Ali Ryan, earth science information officer for the Oregon Department of Geology and Mineral Industries (DOGAMI). "You'll get to an assembly area much faster if you're already familiar with the evacuation route."

Knowing evacuation routes is particularly important in coastal towns like Seaside and Cannon Beach, where many residences, businesses and attractions are in the tsunami zone. In Cannon Beach, about 50 percent of residents and 75 percent of businesses are in the inundation zone.

Because roads will likely be impassible, evacuation will need to happen by foot. Incorporating the route into a regular exercise routine or exploring a different route on every visit to the coast is a good way to get to know those paths to higher ground.

[Race the Wave](#), a 5K fun run and walk set for Sunday, Sept. 28 in Cannon Beach, pairs recreation with tsunami evacuation route education. The race begins on the beach, then zooms up one of the city's main evacuation routes and ends at an assembly area. A free preparedness fair for the entire community will follow the run.

*DOGAMI's mission is to provide earth science information and regulation to make Oregon safe and prosperous.*

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Before any visit to the coast, go to [OregonTsunami.org](http://OregonTsunami.org) and download a tsunami evacuation brochure or the Tsunami Evacuation Zone Viewer app. Find the evacuation route closest to your lodging, and take time to take the route once you're at the beach.

"After an earthquake, you'll only have minutes to get outside the tsunami hazard area," Ryan says. "Don't spend them wandering around, not knowing the route."

***About Race the Wave***

*Race the Wave, a 5K tsunami awareness and preparedness run/walk, is Sept. 28 at 9:30 a.m. in Cannon Beach. Race registration, which includes a t-shirt, is \$30 at [Active.com](http://Active.com).*

*A free preparedness fair near the race finish line on Elk Creek Road will take place from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. The fair will feature preparedness giveaways, activities, displays and more.*

*Race the Wave is supported by the community of Cannon Beach, Clatsop County Office of Emergency Management, Oregon Office of Emergency Management, Oregon Office on Disability & Health at Oregon Health & Science University, the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Region X office, and DOGAMI.*

***About DOGAMI***

*The Department of Geology and Mineral Industries (DOGAMI) increases understanding of Oregon's geologic resources and hazards through science and stewardship. Learn more at [OregonGeology.org](http://OregonGeology.org).*

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