**TSUNAMI EVACUATION INFORMATION**

More resources at OregonTsunami.org

---

**WHAT TO DO! If you feel an earthquake, a tsunami may be coming.**

- **DROP, COVER, HOLD ON** until the earthquake is over. Protect yourself, then...
- **QUICKLY MOVE INLAND TO HIGH GROUND.** DO NOT DELAY OR WAIT for an official warning. GO ON FOOT.
- **FOLLOW EVACUATION ROUTE SIGNS AND ARROWS**
- **DO NOT SLOW DOWN.** Identify points of safety: **BLUE LINES** painted on the road, “Leaving Hazard Zone” signs, or Assembly Area* signs.
- **DO NOT RETURN** to the inundation zone — large waves may continue to come onshore for up to 12 hours. **WAIT** for official NOAA tsunami cancellation and a cautionary re entry notice by local emergency officials before returning to low-lying areas.

---

**WHAT TO DO for both distant and local tsunamis**

1. Evacuate on foot if possible. Follow evacuation signs and arrows to the nearest point of safety or Assembly Area*. Identify points of safety: **BLUE LINES** painted on the road, “Leaving Hazard Zone” signs, or Assembly Area* signs.
2. If the emergency is a distant tsunami, then help may arrive. In the event of a local tsunami, it is unlikely that anyone will help you, so make a plan and be prepared!
3. Stay away from potentially hazardous areas. **WAIT** for official NOAA tsunami cancellation and a cautionary re-entry notice by local emergency officials before returning to low lying areas.

---

**BE PREPARED!**

- Practice your evacuation route
- Assemble emergency go-kits with at least a 96-hour supply for each family member:
  - Local map showing evacuation route to high ground
  - First-aid supplies, prescription and non-prescription medication
  - Water bottle and filtration or treatment supplies capable of providing 1 gallon per person per day
  - Non-perishable food (ready-to-eat meals, food ration bars, baby food, energy bars)
  - Cooking and eating utensils, can opener, Sterno® or other heat source
  - Matches in water-proof container or lighter
  - Shelter (tent), sleeping bags, blankets
  - Portable radio, NOAA weather radio, flashlight, extra batteries
  - Rain gear, sturdy footwear, extra clothing
  - Personal hygiene items (toilet paper, soap, toothbrush)
  - Tools and supplies (pocket knife, shut-off wrench, duct tape, gloves, whistles, plastic bags)
  - Cash - small currency amounts

---

**About Tsunamis**

A tsunami is a series of sea waves, usually caused by displacement of the ocean floor by an undersea earthquake. As tsunamis enter shallow water near land, they increase in height and can cause great loss of life and property damage. Typical wave heights from tsunamis occurring in the Pacific Ocean over the last 500 years have been 20–65 feet at the shoreline, and in some areas as much as 100 feet. Research suggests that tsunamis have struck the Oregon coast on a regular basis. They can occur any time, day or night. Scientists distinguish two types of tsunami. Those caused by an undersea earthquake near the Oregon coast (a local tsunami) and an undersea earthquake that occurs far away (e.g. Japan or Alaska) from the Oregon coast (a distant tsunami).

For a distant tsunami, you will have time to respond, and warnings will be issued. In contrast, for a local tsunami you will first feel an earthquake characterized by strong shaking. A tsunami is probably already on its way. Quickly move inland to high ground.

---

**SAFETY ZONE**

Leaving tsunami zone (nearest safety destination)

**Local tsunamis**

A local tsunami can reach the shore 10 to 20 minutes after the earthquake — before there is time for an official warning from the national warning system. **Ground shaking from the earthquake may be the only warning you receive. Quickly move inland to high ground.**

**Distant tsunamis**

A distant tsunami will take 4 hours or more to reach the shore. You will feel no earthquake, and the tsunami will be smaller than that from a local earthquake. There is time for an official warning, evacuation, and assistance from local emergency officials.