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

1. Evacuate on foot, if at all possible. Follow evacuation signs and arrows to an Assembly Area.*

2. If you need help evacuating, tie something white (sheet or towel) to the front door knob. Make it large enough to be visible from the street. If the emergency is 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 until you receive an ALL CLEAR from local officials. Tsunamis often follow river channels, and dangerous waves can persist for several hours. Local officials must inspect all flooded or earthquake-damaged structures before anyone can go back into them.

4. After evacuation, check with local emergency officials if you think you have special skills and can help, or if you need assistance locating lost family members.

*Assembly areas are shown on the map. Do not congregate Assembly Areas with Evacuation Centers, which are short-term help centers set up after a disaster occurs.

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**What to know about tsunamis**

A tsunami is a series of sea waves, usually caused by a 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.

Recent research suggests that tsunamis have struck the Oregon coast on a regular basis. They can occur any time, day or night. Typical wave heights from tsunamis originating in the Pacific Ocean over the last 500 years have been 20-65 feet at the shoreline. However, because of local conditions a few waves may have been much higher — as much as 100 feet.

We distinguish between a tsunami caused by an undersea earthquake near the Oregon coast (a local tsunami) and an undersea earthquake far away from the coast (a distant tsunami).

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**How to help with tsunami awareness in your community**

- Start a tsunami buddy system
- Make and distribute emergency packs
- Initiate or participate in a local preparedness program

Visit OregonTsunami.org to find more resources!