

WHAT TO DO

At the coast, whether you are a resident or visitor, you need to know where to find high ground in case of a tsunami. Make it your personal responsibility to be prepared: at work, home and play.



Get an evacuation map for your area or go online to OregonTsunami.org to find one. Talk to local emergency officials (fire, police, Red Cross) about evacuation routes and assembly areas.



If you're inside and you feel the ground shake, drop, cover and hold on. If outside, move to an open area and watch for falling objects.



Do not wait for a warning if you are in a low lying area. Do not pack or delay. Immediately locate your grab & go kit. Evacuate on foot. Move inland to high ground. Try to get 100 feet above sea level.



Do not return to shore after the first wave. More waves may be coming, even many hours later.

For ideas on how to make an emergency plan, how to put together a grab & go kit, and what to do in case of a large offshore earthquake and tsunami, your best source of information is the people in your own backyard. Remember, your emergency plan and preparations will directly determine how well you cope with any type of natural disaster.

Other Resources

Oregon Department of Geology and Mineral Industries (DOGAMI)
(971) 673-1555

<http://www.OregonTsunami.org>

Oregon Emergency Management (OEM)
(503) 378-2911 ext. 22237

<http://www.oregon.gov/OMD/OEM>

Oregon Pacific Chapter
of the American Red Cross (ARC)
(541) 673-3255

www.oregonpacific.redcross.org

National Tsunami Hazard Mitigation Program
(NTHMP)

<http://nthmp.tsunami.gov/>



www.OregonTsunami.org

Tsunami Outreach Oregon is local communities working together on earthquake and tsunami preparedness. The program is funded by the NOAA National Tsunami Hazard Mitigation Program and is administered by The Oregon Department of Geology and Mineral Industries, in partnership with Oregon Emergency Management.

TSUNAMI! KNOW WHAT TO DO

on the
Oregon
coast



What is a tsunami?

A tsunami (su-NAH-mee) is a series of sea waves usually caused by the sudden movement of the ocean floor because of a large undersea earthquake. As tsunamis enter shallow water near land, they increase in height and can cause great loss of life and property damage.

People on open beaches, low-lying areas, by bays or tidal flats, and near mouths of rivers draining into the ocean are at greatest risk from a tsunami and may have little time after a large earthquake to move to high ground.

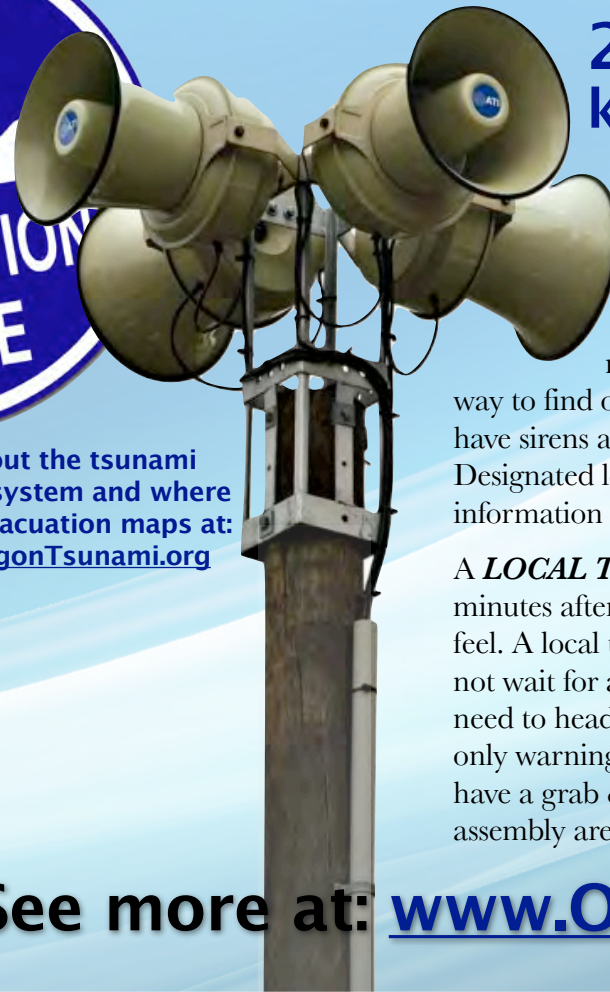
Tsunamis can happen at any time



In March 2011 on a Friday afternoon at 2:46pm, a magnitude 9 megathrust earthquake occurred 80 miles off the coast of Japan. Displaced ocean tsunami waves began inundating the coast within 15 minutes, with waves ranging up to 35 feet high and reaching run-up elevations of 135 feet. 15,845 people died and 3,380 are still missing. The same thing could happen on our coast at any time and be just as deadly.



Learn about the tsunami warning system and where to find evacuation maps at: www.OregonTsunami.org



2 types of tsunamis: know the difference

A **DISTANT TSUNAMI**, caused by a large undersea earthquake, comes from across the ocean and will take at least a few hours to come ashore. There will usually be plenty of time for an official warning and evacuation, if necessary. A NOAA weather radio is the best way to find out what is happening. Many communities also have sirens and mass calling systems to alert the public. Designated local radio and TV stations will also have information through their Emergency Alert System (EAS).

A **LOCAL TSUNAMI** comes ashore within 10 to 20 minutes after a nearby offshore earthquake that you will feel. A local tsunami can be very destructive and fatal. Do not wait for a warning. If you are near the ocean, you need to head to high ground as quickly as possible. Your only warning will be the ground shaking. It's important to have a grab & go kit and know the evacuation routes and assembly areas in your community.

See more at: www.OregonTsunami.org

Learn the facts, make a plan and get some help

Understanding what could happen in a great earthquake and tsunami and how often they occur is the first step toward being prepared. You'll realize you need a plan for anything Mother Nature can throw at you, not just "The Big One." There are dedicated people in your area that can help you get started with an emergency plan and with putting together a grab & go, or disaster kit. You can also join a Map Your Neighborhood group in your area, take a Red Cross class or a local Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) training class. The agencies listed on the back of this brochure are resources that can answer questions, provide information and get you started. After all, we'll be helping each other when a disaster happens.

