

IF YOU FEEL THE GROUND SHAKE, MOVE QUICKLY TO HIGHER GROUND AND SAFETY!

DO NOT WAIT FOR AN OFFICIAL WARNING!

IF YOU FEEL AN EARTHQUAKE:

- PROTECT YOURSELF—DROP, COVER, HOLD—UNTIL THE EARTHQUAKE IS OVER
- MOVE QUICKLY INLAND TO HIGH GROUND AND AWAY FROM LOW-LYING COASTAL AREAS
- GO ON FOOT IF AT ALL POSSIBLE
- DO NOT WAIT FOR AN OFFICIAL WARNING
- DO NOT PACK OR DELAY
- DO NOT RETURN TO SHORE
- WAIT FOR AN 'ALL CLEAR' FROM LOCAL OFFICIALS BEFORE RETURNING TO LOWLYING AREAS
- A TSUNAMI MAY BE COMING IN A FEW MINUTES. MORE WAVES MAY BE COMING FOR SEVERAL HOURS AFTER THE FIRST.

Rockaway Beach Evacuation Instructions

All street signs have a Yellow band, near the top, if you are in the inundation zone. They have a Green band if you are out of the inundation zone. A Red band is used to guide you to one of the evacuation areas when you are moving inland, on a designated route. Travel by foot if you can.

DO NOT DRIVE YOUR VEHICLE!

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 occurring in the Pacific over the last 80 years have been 20–45 feet at the shoreline. A few waves however have been much higher—as much as 100 feet or more—because of local conditions. We distinguish between a tsunami caused by an undersea earthquake near the Oregon coast (LOCAL TSUNAMI) and an undersea earthquake far away from the coast (DISTANT TSUNAMI).

A LOCAL TSUNAMI could come onshore within 15 to 20 minutes after the earthquake—before there is time for official warning from a national warning system. Ground-shaking from the earthquake may be the only warning you have. Evacuate quickly!

A DISTANT TSUNAMI will take four hours or more to come onshore. You will feel no earthquake, and the tsunami will generally be smaller than that from a local earthquake. There will typically be time for an official warning and evacuation to safety. Evacuation for a distant tsunami will generally be indicated by a STEADY 3-MINUTE SIREN BLAST and an announcement over NOAA weather radio that the local area has been put into an official TSUNAMI WARNING.

In isolated areas along beaches and bays you may not hear a warning. Here, a SUDDEN CHANGE OF SEA LEVEL should prompt you to move immediately inland to high ground. If you hear the 3-minute blast or see sudden sea level changes, evacuate away from shoreline areas, then turn on your local broadcast media or NOAA weather radio for further information.

FOR BOTH DISTANT AND LOCAL TSUNAMIS:

- Evacuate on foot if at all possible because of potential traffic jams.
- Stay away from potentially hazardous areas until you receive an ALL CLEAR from local officials.
- Dangerous waves can persist for several hours, and local officials must inspect all flooded or earthquake-damaged structures before anyone can go back into them.
- 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 distant tsunami, then help may arrive. In the event of a local earthquake and tsunami, it is unlikely that anyone will help you, so make a plan and be prepared!
- After evacuation, check with the local area commander if you can help with special skills or need assistance with locating lost family.

Be prepared! Assemble emergency kits with a three-day supply for each member of your family.

1. First aid kit and reference guide.
2. Water—½ gal. drinking water per person per day, plus the same amount for hygiene and cooking.
3. Food (packaged, canned, no-cook, baby food and for special diets).
4. Can opener (non-electric).
5. Blankets or sleeping bags.
6. Fire extinguisher (A-B-C type).
7. Essential medications
8. Money.
9. Food and water for pets.
10. Portable radio, flashlights, & batteries.
11. Alternate cooking source & matches
12. Heavy gloves and sturdy shoes
13. Crescent wrench (12: or longer for utility shut off).

Tsunami Preparedness

If There Is An Off-Shore Earthquake:

- Duck, Cover and Hold, while the ground is shaking.
- If you are in the inundation zone, to inland and up. Take your emergency 3-day survival kit with you. Time is important. You may only have a few minutes before a Tsunami hits.
- When inland, go to one of the evacuation areas (at the East end of either Washington, N. 3rd Street or N. 12th Street – Caution: the 12th Street bridge may be damaged. If so, use Lake Street, next to the High School, as an alternate route).
- Wait for an “All Clear” from local officials before returning to low-lying areas.

If There Is A Distant Earthquake:

- A “steady” 3 minute siren blast means **EVACUATE**. Go inland and up. Take your 3-day emergency kit with you. When inland, go to one of the evacuation areas previously described. **DO NOT RETURN TO THE INUNDATION ZONE FOR ANY REASON!**
- If you require help evacuating, tie something WHITE (sheet/towel) to the front door knob. Make it large enough to be visible from the street.
- Tune your radio to KTIL or NOAA radio and listen for news. Be patient, a Tsunami is a series of waves that may take hours to all hit shore.
- Check in with the area commander if you have special skills or lost family.
- Settle in for a wait. The police/search & rescue must inspect every house or business before anyone can be let back into an area that was flooded. Flood water creates health problems, as do structurally damaged buildings.

- Cleared areas will be announced at each evacuation site.

CONTACTS

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276 Highway 101 S.
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Oregon Department of Geology and Mineral Industries
800 NE Oregon Street #28, Suite 965
Portland, OR 97232
(503) 731-4100
<http://www.oregongeology.com>

Nature of the Northwest Information Center
800 NE Oregon Street #5, Suite 177
Portland, OR 97232
(503) 872-2750
<http://www.naturenw.org/>

International Tsunami Information Center
Box 50027
Honolulu, HI 96850-4993
(808) 541-1658
<http://www.pmel.noaa.gov/tsunami-hazard>