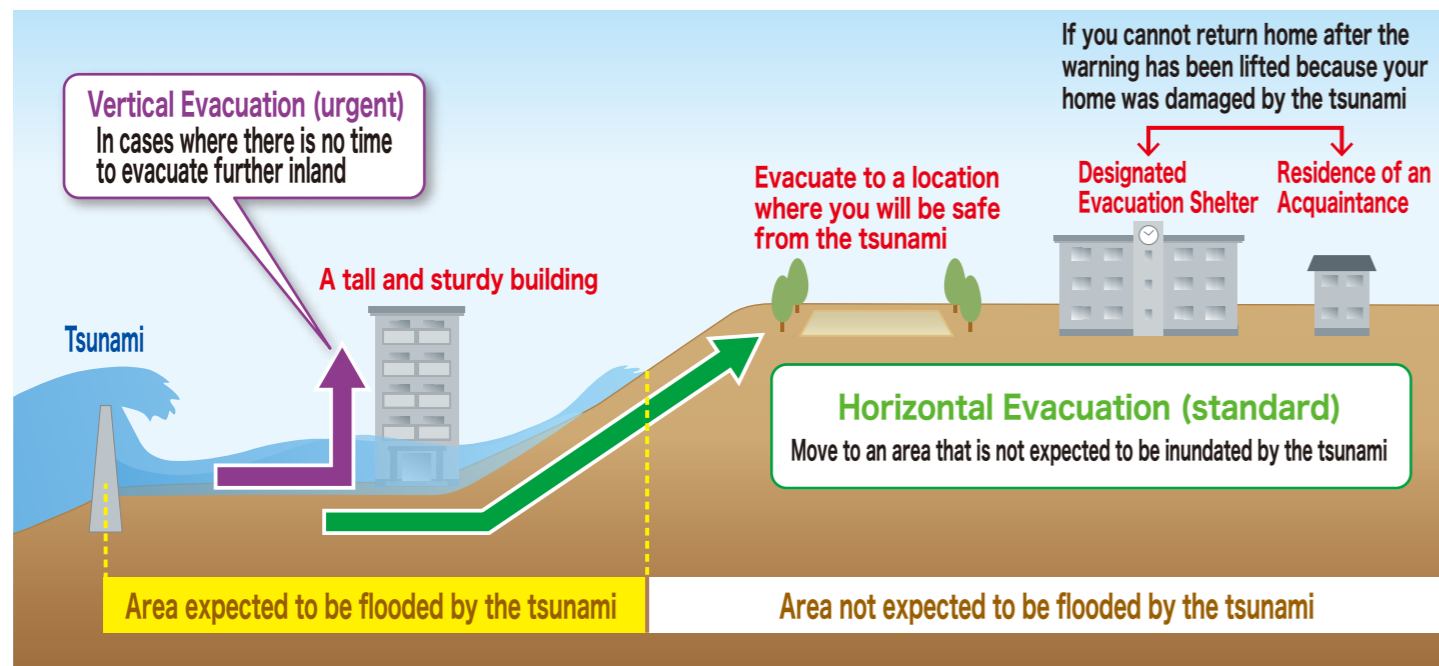


Important Things to Keep in Mind When Evacuating



Steps You Can Take to Preserve Your Life

- The tsunami warning/advisory may not arrive in time if the focus is close to land. If you feel strong tremors or weak and long tremors, begin evacuating immediately.
- If a major tsunami warning is issued, there is a possibility that the tsunami will be as massive as the one caused by the 2011 Great East Japan Earthquake. Immediately evacuate as far as possible.
- Tsunamis may become larger than predicted at certain points due to the topography of the shore and other factors. Always plan on evacuating to an extra high and safe location.
- Tsunamis strike repeatedly over a long period of time.
Continue to evacuate until the tsunami warning/advisory has been lifted.

Evacuating from a Tsunami

When a disaster occurs, act calmly and be mindful of the following:



Don't Let Your Guard Down

Even if the earthquake is small, it can still create a tsunami.



Get Accurate Information

Get accurate information from the television, radio, internet, and other sources.



Evacuate to a Safe Location

Evacuate to a location that is especially tall and especially far from the shore.



Have an Evacuation Plan for the Winter

There is a possibility that evacuation efforts may be delayed due to snow, frozen roads, and other winter phenomenon. Always be ready to evacuate at a moment's notice.

Always Be Ready

Always be prepared. Know what evacuation centers are in your area and be aware of what areas are predicted to be flooded by a tsunami. It is also important to make a plan with your family to decide where you will go and how you will stay in contact in an emergency.

Hold a Family Meeting

Discuss together as a family where everyone will evacuate to and how everyone will stay in contact.

Keep an Eye on Elderly People that Live Alone

Don't just look out for your own family. Look out for your community as well. It is important to be regularly mindful of elderly people who live alone, children, people suffering from an illness, and any other individuals who would require additional support to evacuate.

Know What Evacuation Shelters are Nearby and How to Evacuate to them

Use this Tsunami Hazard Map to find evacuation shelters in your area and to plan your evacuation routes in advance.

Participate in Disaster Preparedness Drills

To confirm how safe an evacuation route is, participate in your local disaster preparedness drills. It is also a good idea to discuss how to support people who will need help evacuating in a disaster.

Prepare a Disaster Supply Kit

Build a disaster supply kit containing food, valuables, and any other items you will need to take in an emergency. It is a good idea to put the items in a backpack or similar container and to store them in a place that you can always access.



Self-preservation/Mutual Aid/Public Assistance

In the 2011 Great East Japan Earthquake, many lives were saved by the individual, family, and communal efforts that took place immediately after the earthquake struck, and the need for local disaster preparedness activities immediately following a disaster became even more apparent. Additionally, local bonds became a pillar of support for people living in evacuation shelters. We cannot prevent disasters from happening, but if we help ourselves (residents and businesses), help others (independent disaster preparedness organizations), and public assistance (government agencies and disaster management groups) functions to the greatest of its capacity, we can minimize the damage.

