A tsunami is a series of waves, usually caused by an earthquake. The first wave may NOT be the largest. The timing between the waves may vary from minutes to several hours apart. The danger from a tsunami can last for several hours after the first wave.

All low-lying coastal areas, including the Los Angeles Harbor, Venice, and West Los Angeles Beaches, can be struck by a tsunami.

The force of a tsunami often carries boats, debris and heavy rocks a great distance inland. This water and debris moves with great force and can kill or injure people.

An earthquake near our coast could cause a LOCAL TSUNAMI. The first wave could arrive within 10 minutes. If you feel a strong earthquake near the beach EVACUATE THE RED AREA SHOWN ON THE MAP INSIDE! If you’re on the beach, leave your car and walk or run inland to higher ground immediately.

How to prepare for and Survive a Tsunami
June 2007

HOW SHOULD YOU REACT?

An earthquake elsewhere in the Pacific Ocean (e.g., near Alaska, Chile, Hawaii or Japan) could create a PACIFIC-WIDE TSUNAMI. The waves may reach our coastline within an hour. As soon as you hear a Tsunami Warning, pack up your family and pets and drive inland.

Evacuate immediately when a Tsunami Warning is issued — Traffic jams may occur.

TSUNAMI SIGNS
The City is in the process of fabricating signs that will be posted on the beach and on major streets along the coast to help residents and visitors identify the Tsunami Hazard Zone and Evacuation Routes.
The time it takes for tsunami waves to reach the coast depends on where the earthquake or underwater landslide occurs. A tsunami caused by an earthquake a few miles off the coast is called a "locally-generated" tsunami. It will arrive within minutes of the quake. Residents of coastal communities probably will feel such an earthquake. The earthquake may be the only warning of an approaching tsunami, so it is important to respond quickly.

Tsunamis caused by large earthquakes centered near Alaska and other distant parts of the Pacific Ocean are called "distant-source" tsunamis. You may not feel these earthquakes and will need to rely on a Tsunami watch or warning.

**TSUNAMI**

If you are in the Tsunami Evacuation Zone when a Tsunami WARNING is issued, EVACUATE. Follow evacuation routes to a safe inland location.

Follow evacuation instructions. As you evacuate, listen to your car radio for additional information and updates. Remember to take your Go-Kit.

Los Angeles Unified School District schools within the TsunamiEvacuation Area will activate their existing Safe School Plans when a Tsunami WARNING is issued. If an evacuation is ordered and time permits, the schools inside the Evacuation Area will be evacuated to another LAUSD school that is not in the evacuation area.

Following the evacuation, you will be notified when and where to pick up your children.

The City urges all businesses, private and government offices, private schools, and care centers in the tsunami evacuation area to develop and maintain tsunami evacuation plans.

Do NOT call 9-1-1. Listen to the radio for emergency information.

If you are unable to move inland, find refuge above the third floor in a high-rise, multi-story, reinforced-concrete building.

Mariners in shallow waters or harbors should move to deep water (600 feet or greater) if there is enough time and weather conditions are suitable.

Do not return home until authorities say it is safe to do so.

Fortunately, a tsunami is a rare event. You can protect your family by evacuating promptly if a Tsunami Warning is issued.

This information could save your life! Share it with your family, neighbors & friends. For more information on a Tsunami, visit [http://WCATWC.ARH.NOAA.GOV](http://WCATWC.ARH.NOAA.GOV)

**WHAT SHOULD YOU DO?**

Move away from low-lying coastal areas when you feel a strong earthquake or if a Tsunami Warning is issued.

- Check the map to see if you live, work or attend school in the Tsunami Zone.
- Plan an evacuation route from your home, school, workplace, or any other place where a tsunami presents a risk.
- If you are on or near the beach and feel a strong earthquake, DROP, COVER, and HOLD on. Watch for falling objects and wait until the earthquake is over. Immediately move inland to higher ground. Don’t wait for a Tsunami Warning to be issued.

If you are in the Tsunami Evacuation Zone when a Tsunami WARNING is issued, EVACUATE. Follow evacuation routes to a safe inland location.

Follow evacuation instructions. As you evacuate, listen to your car radio for additional information and updates. Remember to take your Go-Kit.

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