

# ShakeOut plus Tsunami Evacuation-WalkOut Drill

## *Add a tsunami evacuation drill to your ShakeOut Drill*

### First, find out if you live, work or play in a tsunami hazard area:

- Use the links listed below to find out where tsunami hazard zones occur.

CGS website: <http://www.tsunami.ca.gov>

CalEMA MyHazards <http://myhazards.calema.ca.gov/>

- Information from either of these websites can help you identify the tsunami hazard area in your community and help you prepare. If you are located just outside of a tsunami hazard area, you might consider working with your community to see what kind of assistance you might be able to provide for potential evacuees.



### Add a Tsunami Evacuation Drill to your planned ShakeOut Drill

- For ShakeOut, it is important to register in advance for the event, and on the day of ShakeOut participate in the **Drop-Cover-Hold On** drill. Prior to ShakeOut, use the links above to determine if you are in a tsunami hazard area. If you are, you can add an organized tsunami evacuation drill that will follow the Drop-Cover-Hold On.
- To prepare for the drill, **identify** if there is an evacuation plan in place for your site. Contact your building manager, school district, and/or city or county offices of emergency services to find out the recommended procedures. Additionally, the maps at [www.tsunami.ca.gov](http://www.tsunami.ca.gov) and <http://myhazards.calema.ca.gov/> can lead you to links to local, regional, state, and national information sources.
- If there is no tsunami evacuation plan in place for your building, **learn** what the recommended tsunami evacuation routes are in your city, county and region. Some cities and counties have this information available online.
- Identify an area outside the tsunami hazard zone where you can safely relocate (school, church, parking lot).
- Walk your evacuation route prior to the drill. Make sure there are no potential hazards that may prevent you from using this evacuation route safely.



### **After the Tsunami evacuation drill**

- Coordinate in advance to have water or refreshments at the relocation site.
- Have a safety fair and invite local emergency response groups to share emergency preparedness information and resources.
- For school evacuations, at the relocation site plan interactive educational tsunami activities, distribute information pamphlets, and/or tell the story of Tilly Smith (see [www.tsunami.ca.gov](http://www.tsunami.ca.gov) ).



### **Know the warning signs**

- A strong earthquake along the coastline is one of nature's tsunami warning signals. Do not stay in low-lying coastal areas after a strong earthquake has been felt.
- Tsunamis are sometimes preceded by a noticeable receding of sea level as the ocean retreats seaward exposing the seafloor. A roar like an oncoming train may sometimes be heard as the tsunami wave rushes toward the shore. These are nature's natural tsunami warning signals.
- When a tsunami is coming from a distant source, there will be official tsunami warnings that will be aired on radio and TV, and locally broadcasted in a variety of ways.
- A tsunami is not a single wave, but a series of waves. Do not return to an evacuated area until it is allowed by an official authority.



### **Understand how your community will broadcast official tsunami emergency information**

- Official tsunami warnings may be broadcasted by radio, television, telephone, text message, door-to-door contact, NOAA weather radios, and/or outdoor sirens.
- During a tsunami emergency, give your local civil defense, police, and other emergency responders your fullest cooperation.
- All official warnings to the public must be taken very seriously, even if some are for non-destructive events. The tsunami of May 1960 killed 61 people in Hilo, Hawaii because some thought it was just another false alarm.

### **Be Prepared**

- Look for the blue and white tsunami evacuation signs along the coast.
- Assemble a small evacuation kit or "to go bag" (essential documents, medications, flashlight, portable NOAA weather radio and batteries, water, snack, warm clothes).
- Prepare a reunification plan with your family. Decide when and where you will meet if you are separated. Designate an out of state relative or friend for the individuals in your family to call if it is not possible to meet at your reunification spot.
- Make plans for how to address any needs or disabilities you might have.

### **Contact Emergency Response Groups in Your Area**

- Consider joining your Community Emergency Response Team:  
[www.csc.ca.gov/cc/cert.asp](http://www.csc.ca.gov/cc/cert.asp)
- Find out if other organizations, agencies, or schools in your area are participating in a tsunami drill. Even if you are in an area that does not require evacuation, volunteer to work at relocation sites, comfort stations, or animal care facilities in your area. Learn what the potential needs of your community might be.
- Share ideas and coordinate resources. For example, your elementary school may need to evacuate to another school, church, or business; coordinate with them to work out details such as how to enter the site and where to assemble.

### **Important Online Resources**

#### **Official California Tsunami Hazard Zones:**

CGS Tsunami Inundation Maps: <http://www.tsunami.ca.gov>

CalEMA MyHazards: <http://myhazards.calema.ca.gov/>

#### **Tsunami Education:**

CGS Tsunami Education: (K-12 curriculum, activity sheets, and booklets)

<http://www.tsunami.ca.gov>

International Tsunami Information Center: <http://itic.ioc-unesco.org>

#### **About Tsunamis**

CGS Tsunami: [www.tsunami.ca.gov](http://www.tsunami.ca.gov)

NOAA: [www.tsunami.gov](http://www.tsunami.gov)

#### **Preparing for earthquakes:**

The Great California ShakeOut: <http://www.shakeout.org/>

Earthquake Country Alliance:

<http://www.earthquakecountry.info/roots/index.php>

Red Cross: <http://www.redcross.org/>

FEMA <http://www.fema.gov/earthquake>

Local County Offices of Emergency Services