WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW!

Tsunami Preparedness

Did you know that tsunamis are responsible for more deaths in the State of Hawai'i than any other natural disaster **including** hurricanes? More than 220 Hawai'i residents have lost their lives (including six on Oahu in 1946) due to tsunamis in the past 60-years. Tsunami' are Hawaii's deadliest natural disaster.

- There is **NO** tsunami season. Tsunamis are a year-round, 24-hour-threat and hazard to **all** shoreline areas of Hawaii.
- Tsunamis are most often generated by deep sea earthquakes or underwater landslides. Earthquakes **cannot** be forecasted or predicted.
- When a Distant Tsunami Warning is issued, evacuation sirens will sound 3-hours before wave arrival time. Tsunami Refuge Shelters will not be opened until after the tsunami waves have subsided.
- Know if your home or workplace is located in an tsunami evacuation zone. Evacuation maps are printed in the disaster preparedness information section of your telephone book.
- Visit the department web-site at **www.oahuDEM.org** to view the online Tsunami Map Viewer to quickly determine if your home is in an evacuation zone.
- If you are in an evacuation zone you must leave if ordered to do so. If you are out of the zone, stay where you are and keep streets and highways open for emergency responders.
- Do not tie up phone lines or cell phones with **non-emergency** calls. Increased cellular and land-line telephone traffic can severely hamper the ability to request emergency assistance from first responders.
- Rely on television, radio and emergency messages via Nixle at **www.nixle.com** for the most current and up to date emergency information from the Department of Emergency Management.
- If you are on the shoreline and feel the ground shake, see the ocean quickly recede or hearing a roaring sound go inland or to higher elevations as soon as possible. These are natural tsunami warnings!
- Do not return to coastal areas until the all clear has been announced by emergency officials.

REMEMBER*— *If you live on the shoreline you are at risk from the effects of tsunami

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Plan and Prepare Now for the Next Disaster

Learn – Educate yourself on disasters that can affect you and your Family.

Plan – Create and exercise a Family Disaster Plan. Locate a secondary meeting place and designate an off island contact.

Individual, Family and Business Disaster Planning – Disaster planning is everyone's business. Carefully review this information and take the time today to discuss preparedness planning with family, friends and co-workers.

Develop a 7-Day Disaster Supplies Kit

Your disaster supplies kit should contain enough of the following items to last for 7-days:

- **Water** - One gallon of water per person per day for seven days for drinking and sanitation
- **Food** - Non-perishable food that does not require cooking. Popular local foods such as spam, corned beef and vienna sausages
- **Eating Utensils** – Plates, mess kits, forks and chop sticks. Don't forget a non-electric can opener for canned foods
- **Radio** - Battery-powered or hand crank radio with NOAA Weather alert
- **Light** - Flashlight and or a portable fluorescent light
- **Spare batteries** - Check annually
- **First Aid** – Get a good kit and consider enrolling in a certified first aid course
- **Whistle** – Important for signaling for help. A whistle carries much farther than the human voice and uses less energy than yelling
- **Dust Mask** – Helps to filter contaminated air
- **Sanitation** - Moist Towelettes, garbage bags and plastic ties for personal sanitation
- **Tools** - Wrench or pliers to turn off utilities, duct tape
- **Maps** - Local area maps
- **Prescription** – Special medications and glasses
- **Baby** - Infant Formula and diapers
- **Pets** - Pet food and extra water for your pet

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