

# SAFE ROOM PLANNING

## What you need to know:

### ◆ What is a Safe Room?

A room in a home or business that can provide optional emergency refuge during a tropical storm, hurricane, or other hazard.

### ◆ Should I consider having a safe room?

**Yes.** You should consider having a safe room if you are outside a hurricane/tsunami evacuation zone or flood prone area.

There are many emergency shelters on Oahu, but they can be hot and crowded, making them uncomfortable for senior citizens and those with disabilities. Also you must bring all of your own emergency supplies. This can be difficult for large families, and families with pets.

**No.** You should not consider having a safe room if you are in a hurricane/tsunami evacuation zone, a flood prone area, or if your home was built before 1995.

Check tsunami evacuation zone maps in the local telephone directory, or visit [www.honolulu.gov/dem](http://www.honolulu.gov/dem) and enter your address in the tsunami map viewer box.

Consider going to a designated shelter when instructed by local emergency officials.

## Best Safe Room Locations






**Department of  
Emergency Management  
City and County of Honolulu**  
Kirk Caldwell, Mayor  
650 South King Street  
Honolulu, HI 96813  
(808) 723-8960  
Fax (808) 524-3439  
[www.honolulu.gov/dem](http://www.honolulu.gov/dem)  
[dem@honolulu.gov](mailto:dem@honolulu.gov)

## Prepare your safe room:

- ◆ Select the best interior location for a safe room such as a bathroom with no windows or a walk in closet. It should be near the center of the structure and have no exterior walls.
- ◆ If an interior location is not available, select a space such as a bathroom with small windows or a hallway. In multi story structures, a location near a stairway may be good.
- ◆ Put as much protection as possible between the safe room and the hazards outside.
- ◆ The safe room should have enough space for all family members, pets, emergency supplies, and bedding.
- ◆ Strengthen your safe room by reinforcing the doors, walls and ceilings.
- ◆ Learn more about safe rooms at the FEMA website: [www.Ready.gov](http://www.Ready.gov)
- ◆ Use **HNL.info** to stay informed about emergencies, weather advisories, traffic bulletins, and much more via SMS or Email.