

Prepare a Go-Kit Today



What should I have in my Go-Kit?

Assemble a "Go-Kit" (for at least 3 days) to take with you when you evacuate. At the least, include:

- Food and water
- Medications and copies of prescriptions
- A change of clothes and comfortable shoes
- Personal hygiene and first aid supplies
- Special items such as diapers, formula or special food requirements
- Pet carrier, leash and pet food
- Copies of your important documents

Keep the items that you would most likely need for evacuation in a backpack, duffle bag or wheeled cooler in an easily accessible location.

Keep a Copy of This Flier in Your Emergency Go-Kit



City of Los Angeles
Emergency Management Department
200 N. Spring Street, Rm. 1533, Los Angeles, CA 90012
213-978-2222 • TTY Services: 213-978-0463
Internet: www.emergency.lacity.org
Twitter: twitter.com/readyla
Facebook: facebook.com/readyla

TSUNAMI

EMERGENCY INFORMATION

HARBOR AREA

How to Prepare for and Survive a Tsunami



City of Los Angeles

January 2011

What is a Tsunami?

A Tsunami is one or more intense waves, usually caused by an earthquake.

The first wave of a tsunami 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, long after the first wave arrives.

Tsunamis can occur at any time, day or night, in good weather or bad, and at any time of the year. The tsunami waves can come ashore in many different ways, such as a wall of water, a rapidly rising tide, or a series of surf-like breakers.

A tsunami has the force to carry boats, debris, and heavy rocks a great distance inland. This swift-moving, debris-filled wave of water can, and often does, injure or kill people.

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

There are two types of Tsunamis.

- **Local Tsunamis.** These are caused by earthquakes near our coast. The first wave of a *Local Tsunami* could arrive within 10 minutes of the temblor. There may not be time for a **Tsunami Warning** to be issued.
- **Pacific-Wide Tsunamis.** These are caused by earthquakes far away from our coast. A *Pacific-Wide Tsunami* could reach our coastline within an hour of the earthquake, and will usually give authorities time to issue a **Tsunami Warning**. When you hear a **Tsunami Warning** broadcast, pack up your family and pets and move inland.

How can I protect myself from a Tsunami?

- **Check the Tsunami Evacuation Map included in this pamphlet (see map on reverse) to see if you live, work, or attend school in the *Tsunami Evacuation Area*.**
- **Plan an evacuation route** from your home, school, workplace, or any other place you frequently visit that is at risk for a tsunami.
- **Learn the natural warning signs** of a tsunami:
 - An earthquake
 - Water receding or surging out to sea
 - Water surging inland
 - A loud roaring sound coming from the ocean
- **Prepare Go-Kits** (for 3 or more days) for your home, automobile, and work.
- **Keep aware and informed.** If you live or work in the *Tsunami Evacuation Area*, the City strongly urges you to purchase a National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) weather radio with an alert feature and Specific Area Message Encoding (SAME) to keep you informed of **Tsunami Watches and Warnings**.



When should I evacuate?

In the event of a tsunami, **Tsunami Watches and Warnings will be issued by NOAA**. Radio and TV stations will carry official shoreline evacuation instructions through the Emergency Alert System. **A Local Tsunami may not allow sufficient time to issue a Warning. Therefore, swift action is necessary.**

- **When a Tsunami Warning is issued, or if you feel a strong earthquake at or near the beach or harbor, move away from low-lying coastal areas.**
- **Evacuate immediately** if you are within the *Tsunami Evacuation Area* **shown in pink** on the *Tsunami Evacuation Map*. Follow evacuation routes and instructions to a safer location.
- **If time permits, Los Angeles City officials may order an evacuation.** If an evacuation is ordered and time permits, law enforcement officials will notify the public to evacuate the *Tsunami Evacuation Area*. However, it is best to evacuate **immediately after the Tsunami Warning is issued** since traffic jams may occur.

What if my children are in school?

- **Los Angeles Unified School District schools** within the *Tsunami Evacuation 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 *Tsunami Evacuation Area* will be evacuated to another LAUSD school outside the evacuation area.
- **Following the evacuation,** you will be notified when and where to pick up your children.



Where should I evacuate to?

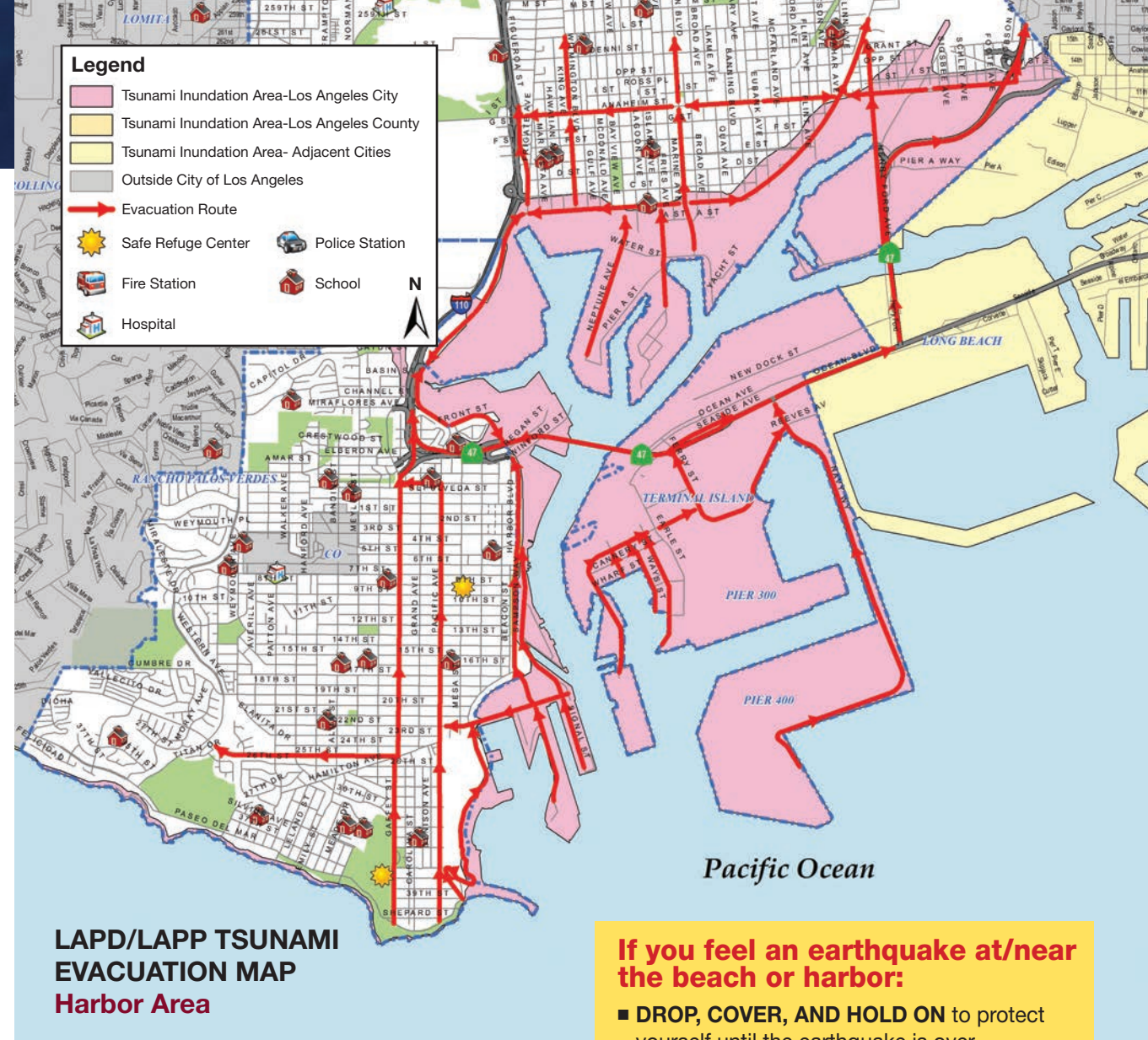
- **Follow evacuation instructions.** As you evacuate, listen to your car radio or check Twitter (twitter.com/readyla) for additional information and updates. Do **not** call 911. Be sure to take your Go-Kit.
- **Move inland to higher ground.** Move out of and away from the *Tsunami Evacuation Area* as quickly as possible. Evacuation routes are **shown in red** on the *Tsunami Evacuation Map*.
- **If you are on the beach and unable to get to high ground,** go inland as far as you can.
- **If you are unable to get far enough inland,** try to find refuge above the third floor in a high-rise steel-reinforced building.
- **Mariners in shallow waters or harbors** should move to deep water (600 feet or more) if there is enough time and weather conditions are suitable.
- **Do not return home until authorities say it is safe to do so.**



What are Tsunami signs?

Signs are posted on/near the beaches and harbors and on major streets along the coast to help residents and visitors identify the *Tsunami Hazard Zones* and the *Tsunami Evacuation Routes* to exit the area.

Although *tsunamis* are rare in our region, they can be extremely deadly. 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 visit:
<http://wcatwc.arh.noaa.gov>

If you feel an earthquake at/near the beach or harbor:

- **DROP, COVER, AND HOLD ON** to protect yourself until the earthquake is over.
- **GRAB YOUR GO-KIT** and leave without delay.
- **DO NOT WAIT** for an official warning.
- **MOVE IMMEDIATELY INLAND** to higher ground and away from low-lying coastal areas.
- **GO ON FOOT** if at all possible.
- **DO NOT RETURN** to the beach.
- **WAIT** for an "All Clear" from local emergency officials before returning to low-lying areas.