

What is a Tsunami?

A tsunami is a series of waves or surges commonly caused by an earthquake beneath the sea floor. There are two types of tsunamis that could affect the coastal area of California.

The first is called a local-source tsunami, which stems from the effects of a large earthquake within close proximity. This type of tsunami offers limited time for authorities to issue a warning. People on the beach or in other low-lying areas identified on our local inundation map should move immediately to higher ground and stay there until it has been deemed safe to move.

In Coronado, higher ground or safe refuge is achieved by moving inland away from the immediate coastline or above the ground floor in a high-rise or multistory building.

The second type of tsunami is considered a distant-source tsunami. While these waves also may be generated by large earthquakes, they come from other areas of the Pacific Ocean and reach our coastline many hours after an earthquake has occurred. This type of tsunami usually provides local authorities with some time to communicate about the event.

Before a Tsunami

Tsunamis may be caused by an underwater earthquake, landslide or volcanic eruption. In the event of an earthquake, DROP under any sturdy table or object, COVER your head and neck and HOLD ON. If outdoors, move to a clear area and drop to the ground.



How to Survive a Tsunami

- Protect yourself during the earthquake
- Move to high ground or inland as soon as you can
- Stay there until further notice

Is a Tsunami coming?

Natural Warning: Strong ground shaking, a loud ocean roar or the water receding unusually far exposing the sea floor, are natural signs of a tsunami. If you experience any of these, immediately go to higher ground or inland. A tsunami may arrive within minutes of an earthquake and tsunami waves may last for more than eight hours. Stay away from coastal areas until officially notified.

Official Warning: Tsunami warnings may come via radio, TV, telephone, text message, outdoor sirens, emergency responders and through the City's social media sites. Heed the directions of emergency personnel who may request that you evacuate coastal areas. Use your phone only for life-threatening emergencies.

Be Prepared

- Know if you live, work or play in a Tsunami Hazard Zone.
- If you are in a Tsunami Hazard Zone, learn more about your evacuation route or shelter area.
- If you are near the coast and evacuation is impossible, go to a higher floor of a sturdy building.

City of Coronado Fire Services



City of Coronado

www.coronado.ca.us

TSUNAMI PREPAREDNESS GUIDE



Visit your local Fire Station, Police Station, City Hall or the City's website for more information about tsunami preparedness.

EMERGENCY NOTIFICATION

Coronado has two main systems for emergency notification. The first is telephone notifications provided through the County of San Diego's AlertSanDiego program. Calls are made to residents and businesses warning them of an emergency, such as an impending tsunami. AlertSanDiego uses the region's 911 database provided by local telephone companies and contacts both listed and unlisted lines. If you also want to register your cell phone, Voice over IP or email address, visit www.readysandiego.org/alertsandiego.

The second notification method is provided through the City of Coronado's Emergency Siren System. The City has three sirens that are located throughout Coronado — one at the Main Fire Station on Sixth Street; one at Glorietta Bay Park; and one at the Cays Fire Station at Coronado Cays Boulevard. If the sirens sound, residents should tune their radios to the local Emergency Alert System, AM 600 KOGO.

The City also may notify residents and businesses via emergency responders, and through the City's website, Facebook and Twitter accounts. Follow @CoronadoCity to receive real-time updates in the event of any emergency.

SHELTERING AND EVACUATION

Emergency sheltering is a part of Coronado's plan. The City has partnership agreements with the Coronado Unified School District and the American Red Cross to provide an emergency shelter, if required. The shelter will be operated by the American Red Cross with help from the Coronado Community Emergency Response Team, or CERT.

For those in at-risk areas, be aware you may be directed to evacuate — to move "inward and upward." This is accomplished by moving toward the center of the City or to the second or higher floor of multistory structure. You also may be directed to "shelter in place" or move to a designated shelter. Stay tuned to the local Emergency Alert System.



TSUNAMI INUNDATION MAP

