What should I do if an earthquake occurs while at the coast?

- Drop, cover and hold on until the shaking stops.
- Evacuate inland or to higher ground immediately. Do not wait for notification. Take your pets.
- Take your 7-day disaster supply kit.
- Listen to your local radio station or NOAA Weather Radio for information on shelter location and emergency broadcast.
- Beware of aftershocks.
- Do not return to the beach until local emergency officials give the “All Clear” notice.

Disaster Supply Kit

- Assemble in a 7-day minimum supply:
  - First-aid supplies
  - Personal prescriptions
  - Pet supplies
  - Non-perishable food and utensils
  - Water (one gallon per person per day)
  - Extra blankets, rain gear and clothing
  - Plastic bags for garbage and waste
  - Flashlights
  - Battery-operated AM radio
- Visit www.ready.alaska.org for a complete disaster kit list.

What is a tsunami?

A tsunami is a series of waves most commonly caused by an earthquake beneath the sea floor. Following an earthquake out at sea, the ground moves upward or downward, causing the sea floor to rise or sink. This movement displaces the water on top of the sea floor. The water piles up on itself and forms a wave. When the wave reaches the ocean’s edge, it can bring destruction to the coastal land.

How do I know when to evacuate?

- If you feel the ground shake or you hear the sirens sound, evacuate inland or to high ground immediately and return only after officials say it is safe.
- If you notice a sudden drop or rise in sea level, it may be a warning of impending danger. Move to high ground or inland immediately. The waves can kill and injure people and cause great property damage where they come ashore.
- The first wave is often not the largest; successive waves may be spaced several minutes apart and continue for several hours.

How do I get inland or to higher ground?

- Go on foot if possible, particularly if an earthquake has caused damage to roads, power lines, and resulted in significant debris.
- Remember:
  - Never go to the coast to watch a tsunami. Tsunamis move faster than a person can run. If you are camping on or near the beach, you may have to abandon your campsite to go inland or to higher ground to save your life.
  - Do not return to shore after the first wave. Wait for Emergency Management officials to give the “All Clear” before you return.
  - If you see an unexpected rise or fall in coastal water, a tsunami may be approaching. Do not wait instead move inland or uphill as quickly as possible.
  - State tuned to your radio, marine radio or NOAA Weather Radio during a disaster. Bulletins will be issued regularly through Emergency Management officials and National Weather Service.
  - Call 9-1-1 only for life threatening emergencies.

Tsunami!

Evacuation Map and Safety Tips for Skagway, Alaska

Municipality of Skagway Borough
700 Spring Street
P.O. Box 415

Alaska Division of Homeland Security & Emergency Management
PO Box 5750
Fort Richardson, AK 99505-5750
(800) 478-2337 (907) 428-7000
Fax: (907) 428-7009

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