

EVACUATION ROUTES FOR PORT TOWNSEND AND VICINITY

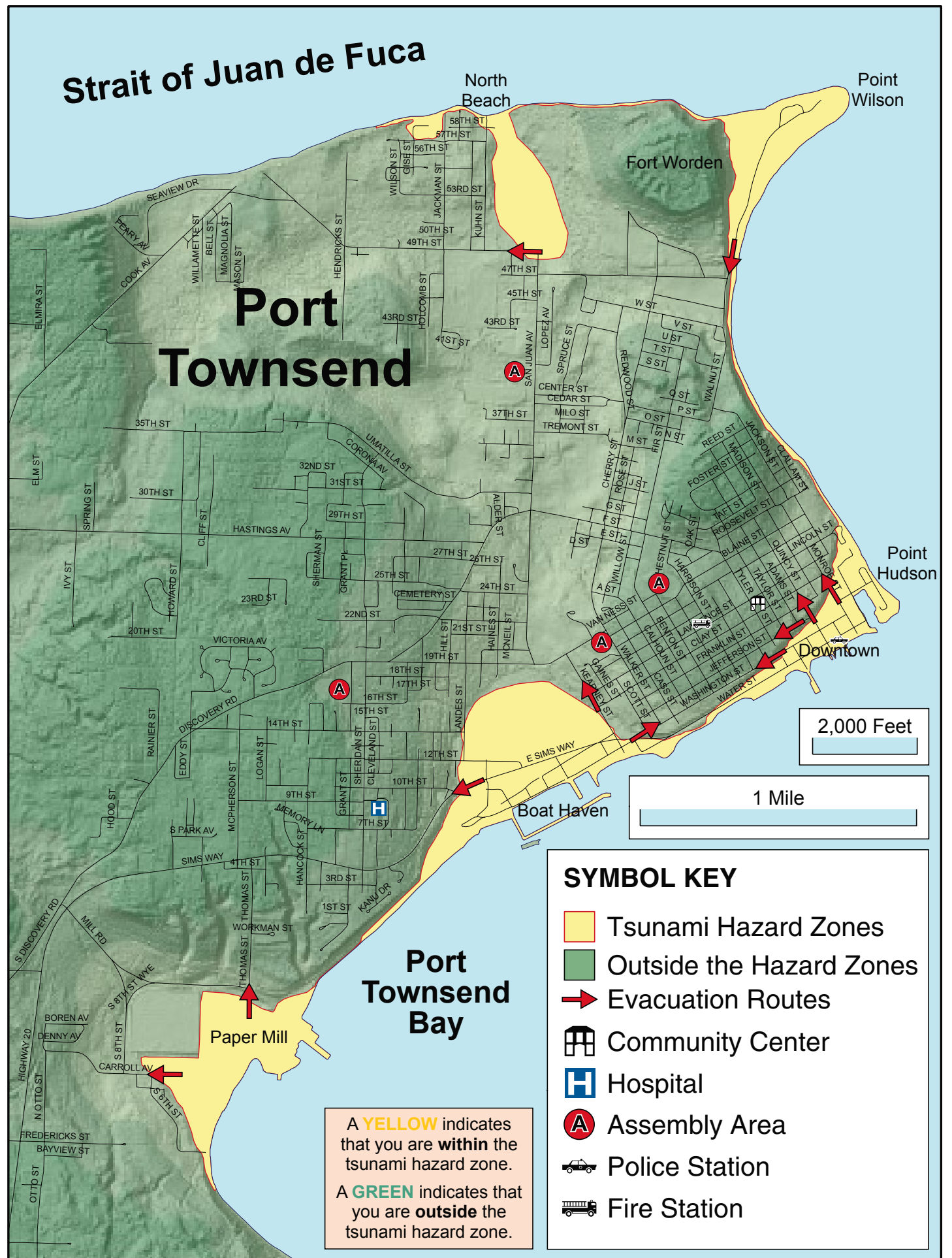


Evacuation signs and what they mean:

Tsunami evacuation routes were developed to assist coastal residents and visitors find safer locations in case of an earthquake and tsunami. Evacuation signs have been placed along roadways to indicate the direction inland or to higher ground. In some places, there may be more than one direction available to reach safer areas. These routes may be marked with several signs showing additional options for evacuation. You will need to know the evacuation routes for your area.

Community Plans

Every attempt has been made by local Emergency Management offices to locate evacuation routes and public assembly areas that are safe, within a reasonable distance for foot or vehicle traffic, and accessible within a short period of time. These are difficult criteria to meet in some geographic areas, primarily as a result of private property issues. For that reason, residents who may be impacted by tsunami activity, but do not have an "official" route or assembly area within a reasonable distance, are urged to work together to develop an evacuation plan within their neighborhood or community. A plan should address property access issues, evacuation routes, and what might be expected in terms of numbers of people needing to access a locally organized assembly area.



When you feel the ground shake:

- Drop, cover and hold.
 - Evacuate inland or to higher ground immediately. Do not wait for notification.
 - Take your 3-day disaster supply kit.
 - Listen to NOAA Weather Radio or your local radio station for information on shelter locations and emergency broadcasts.
- NOAA Weather Radio frequencies:
- Astoria 162.40 Mhz
 - Mt. Octopus 162.55 Mhz
 - Olympia 162.475 Mhz
- Be aware of aftershocks.
 - Do not return to the beach until emergency officials give the "All Clear" notice.

Disaster Supply Kit

Each home should have a 3-day disaster kit. Your kit should be adapted to your personal needs – but keep it light and manageable in case you must evacuate on foot. Have your emergency survival kit ready to go if told to evacuate immediately. The following is a list of survival kit supplies:

- Road maps showing safe evacuation routes to high ground
- First-aid supplies and personal prescriptions
- Non-perishable food, cooking and eating utensils
- Water (one gallon per person per day)
- Water carrying bag or container
- Extra blankets, ponchos and clothes
- Special food and supplies for infants
- Plastic bags for garbage and waste
- Rubber, latex, and heavy-duty gloves
- Pocket knife, flat 12" pry bar, and duct tape
- Tube tent
- Flashlights (extra batteries)
- Battery-operated AM radio (extra batteries)
- Whistles
- Dental and personal hygiene items
- Matches

What is a tsunami?

A tsunami is a series of waves most commonly caused by an earthquake

beneath the sea floor.

If a large earthquake displaces the

sea floor near the Washington Coast,

the first waves may reach the outer

coast minutes after the ground stops

shaking. There would be no time for

authorities to issue a warning. This

tsunami would reach Port Townsend in

about 2-1/4 hours.

Following an earthquake far

out in the Pacific Ocean it may take

hours for tsunami waves to reach the

Washington Coast. The West Coast

and Alaska Tsunami Warning Center

alerts local officials who may order

evacuation, but isolated areas may not

receive official announcements. 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 many

minutes apart and continue to arrive

for several hours.

Tsunami!

Safety Tips for the Washington Coast!



Evacuation Map for Port Townsend and Vicinity

Where do tsunamis occur?

Tsunamis can occur at any time of the

day or night, under any and all weather

conditions, and in all seasons. Beaches

open to the ocean, by bay entrances or tidal

flats, and the shores of coastal rivers are

especially vulnerable to tsunamis.

How do I know when to evacuate?

A strong off-shore earthquake may

generate a tsunami. Therefore, if you feel

the ground shake, evacuate inland or to high

ground immediately and return only after

officials say it is safe to do so.

During distant source tsunami events,

local Emergency Management officials

will advise citizens to evacuate by making

an announcement. Monitor your NOAA

Weather Radio or keep a local radio and/or

TV station on for information and emergency

instructions.

Where do I evacuate?

Go to an area 50 feet above sea level,

if possible. If you don't have time to travel

to high ground, but are in a multi-story

building, go to an upper level of the home or

building. If you are on the beach and unable

to get to high ground go inland as far as you

can. The tsunami evacuation map illustrates

the primary evacuation routes and assembly

areas. Take your disaster supply kit with you.

CONTACTS

State Emergency Management
A Division of Washington Military Department
at (800) 562-6108, or visit our
Web site at: www.emd.wa.gov

Mailing address:
Camp Murray
Washington 98430-5122



For information regarding emergency and disaster preparedness in Jefferson County, please contact:

Jefferson County
Dept. of Emergency Management
Phone: (360) 385-3831, press 7,
during office hours
Email: jcdem@co.jefferson.wa.us
Web: www.jcdem.co.jefferson.wa.us/

Mailing address:
Jefferson County Department of
Emergency Management
81 Elkins Road
Port Hadlock, WA 98339

How do I get inland or to high ground?

Go on foot if necessary, particularly if an earthquake has caused damage to roads, power lines, and resulted in significant debris.

What is the difference between a Watch and a Warning?

A watch means conditions are favorable for something to happen. A warning means it is going to happen.

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 the coastal water, a tsunami may be approaching. Do not wait — instead move inland or uphill as quickly as possible.
- Stay tuned to your radio, marine radio or NOAA Weather Radio during a disaster. Bulletins will be issued regularly through local Emergency Management officials and National Weather Service.
- Call 9-1-1 only for life threatening emergencies.