

Be Prepared for the Unexpected

(Safety Tips for Tsunami - The Killer Wave)

Tsunami is a series of ocean waves that sends surges of water, sometimes reaching heights of over 100 feet (30.5 m), onto land. These Walls of water can cause widespread destruction when they crash ashore.



Indications:

If you observe any of these warning signs, move to higher ground or inland immediately:

- a strong earthquake near a coastline
- a sudden rise or fall of coastal waters, which may be accompanied by a sucking noise
- There are many reports of unusual animal behavior before tsunamis. This may include animals suddenly vacating an area, gathering in unusual groups

Safety Tips:

- When in coastal areas, stay alert for Tsunami warnings.
- Plan an evacuation route that leads to higher ground.
- Practice following your community's evacuation route and your personal safety plan, especially at night and in poor weather condition.
- Never stay near shore to watch a tsunami come in.
- Do not return to an affected coastal area until authorities say it is safe.
- Prepare a portable emergency kit.

Most tsunamis, about 80 percent, happen within the Pacific Ocean's "Ring of Fire," a geologically active area where tectonic shifts make volcanoes and earthquakes common.

It may happen in any ocean...