

Natural Hazard Preparedness

KRIENGGRAI KHOVADHANA

National Disaster Warning Center, Thailand

FLOOD

Hazards

- Rapid flooding of stream, valleys, and other flood-prone areas. Sometime flood water is mixed with mud and debris.



Hint to remember

- When flooding move to elevated place and cut of electric power to prevent danger from electricity.

Preparedness actions

- Find out whether you live in a potential flood zone.
- Be aware of potentially unsafe area below dams and reservoirs.
- Do not bulk your home in flood-prone area.
- Elevate main breaker and fuse box above the anticipated flood level to avoid short circuit.
- Prepare sand sacks for building dam.
- Remove debris from your property.
- Do not use a vehicle and swim in turbulent stream.
- Have a working radio on hand for listening to news and instruction.



Action plan

- Listen news from radio or television.
- Evacuate to elevated and safe place.
- Turn off main switches and do not touch electrical equipment if wet.
- Stay away from electric line that falls on the ground.
- Do not stack sandbags against outside of house; this will add more pressure to the wall which may result in exterior wall collapse.
- Do not drink tap water and flood water because it is contaminated.
- Move valuable properties to upper floors.




Survival Kits

Prepared survival kits for using in your home or for evacuation as follows:

- Non perishable food for 3 day supply / person
- Drinking water at least 2 liter / person
- Flashlight, candle and matches
- Essential medicines
- Peel food
- Fuel for stoves or charcoal
- Mosquito net, blanket, pillow, clothes and toothbrush
- Special items for infants
- Money
- Portable radio with battery and battery supply
- Identification cards and driver license
- Telephone numbers for police stations and fire stations, etc.
- Books, games and favorite toys for children



National Disaster Warning Center of Thailand
Call Center 1860 (24 hr.)
www.ndwc.or.th



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EARTHQUAKE

Hazards

- Severe ground surface movement occurring without early warning.




Hint to remember

- After a major earthquake, many after shocks usually occur afterward which may cause ground cracks, landslide and collapse of buildings.




Preparedness actions

- Inspect settlement area whether it is located in earthquake prone area.
- Brace cripple walls that rest on the house foundation and support floor and interior walls.
- Anchor bookcases and furniture to prevent them from falling down.
- Anchor overhead lighting fixtures.
- Use flexible connection on gas lines to prevent ruptures.
- Move bed away from windows and walls.
- Keep flashlight, footwear and radio near your bed.



Action plan

- Move away from buildings to open ground.
- In a crowded place, do not rush to the doorway because you may injure from stepping over.
- If you can not go out of the building, kneel under table or stand close to strong pole.
- Cover your head until earthquake stop.
- If you are in a high-rise building, stay on the same floor, and do not use elevators.
- Be prepared for alarm and sprinkler systems to activate.
- In case you are driving a car, stop it immediately in open space, do not stop vehicle under bridges, overpasses, overhead power lines and remain in the vehicle.



TSUNAMI


Hazards

- Series of destructive ocean waves that can severely damage areas and may occur with limited or no early warning.




Hint to remember

- Tsunami is not a single wave but it is series of waves and the next wave may be larger than the first one.
- When sea level recede or raise rapidly, it is anticipated that tsunami may occur.
- Tsunami usually occurs after major earthquakes in deep ocean.
- Living in Coastal areas are susceptible to tsunami.




Preparedness actions

- Find out whether your home is located in the tsunami inundation zone.
- Know height of road at top level and distance from road to shoreline.
- Be familiar with tsunami warning signs.
- Provide evacuation plans.
- Choose a safe place in elevated area.
- Have an evacuation and disaster kit ready.
- Stay away from beach or coastal area when tsunami is warned.
- Have a battery operated radio for receiving of information and news.



Action plan


- In case you hear an official tsunami warning or observe signs of a tsunami, leave suddenly from shoreline and move boats to deep sea.
- Listen to radio or TV for the latest emergency information.
- Stay away from coastal areas and go to higher ground for safe places.
- Help children, elder and handicap people in evacuation.
- Return home only after authorities announce it is safe to do so.



STORM

Hazards

- Strong winds, heavy rain, flash flood, damaging surf, and coastal inundation.




Hint to remember

- When announce watching situation strong winds are approaching in 36 hr.
- When announce warning situation strong winds are approaching in 24 hr.
- When there is storm, there will be heavy rain and flash food.
- The eye of the storm is a relative calm center. A phenomenon of immediate calm after the storm means you are right in the eye of the storm. When it passed, another strong wind is approaching again.



Preparedness actions

- Listen to radio and TV for instruction.
- Stay in shelter in elevated land and do not go to sea.
- Assemble your survival kit and disaster supplies kit.
- Remove branches and tall tree that may fall on your home.
- Install storm shutters or pre-cut wood for windows.
- Stock extra food, drinking water and batteries.
- Fill your car's gas tank for evacuation.
- When warning is announced, do not reluctant, evacuate suddenly.
- Keep in hand important telephone numbers and a map for emergency communication.



Action plan

- During a warning, evacuate to sturdy buildings or public shelters.
- When sirens sound, evacuate and before leave your home covers windows with boards or tape.
- Leave areas that may flood to elevated land.
- During strong winds, stay in sturdy building.
- Be aware of the calm eye of the storm is deceptive; do not hurry from safe place until disaster termination is announced.

