

# Living on **SHAKY GROUND**

HOW TO SURVIVE EARTHQUAKES AND TSUNAMIS IN NORTHERN CALIFORNIA

## How Will I Know if a Tsunami is Coming and What Should I Do?



### NATURAL WARNING

- Ground shaking that lasts a **LONG TIME**. The shaking might be weak or strong - it's the length that is important.
- A loud ocean roar.
- The water receding unusually far, exposing the sea floor.

If you observe any of these warning signs, immediately go to higher ground or inland. A tsunami may arrive within minutes and may last for 12 hours or longer. Stay away from coastal areas until officials permit you to return.

**NATURAL AND OFFICIAL WARNINGS  
ARE EQUALLY IMPORTANT. RESPOND TO  
WHICHEVER YOU HEAR OR OBSERVE FIRST.**

### OFFICIAL WARNING

Tsunami Warnings are announced via radio, television, telephone, text message, door-to-door contact by emergency responders, NOAA weather radios, or in some cases by outdoor sirens and announcements from airplanes.



When a tsunami warning is issued, move away from the beach. Seek more information without using your telephone. Use radio, television or the web and follow the directions of emergency personnel who may request you to evacuate beaches and low-lying coastal areas.

Contact your county Office of Emergency Services to sign up for emergency notifications by text, phone or email.

