

Preparing for an emergency

1. Check the disaster risk

Start by using this disaster management map to **check the risk** to your home and workplace. If you live in an area at high risk of a tsunami or flooding, check the **separate tsunami and flooding hazard maps** to estimate in more detail the potential damage, and to ascertain what action should be taken should a disaster occur. Hazard maps can be obtained either from your local city branch office or from the Disaster Response Office or the Rivers and Waterways Division of Iwaki City Hall.



These hazard maps are also displayed on the Iwaki City website.



(<http://www.city.iwaki.lg.jp/www/genre/1534907391781/index.html>)

Iwaki City Hazard Map Search

2. Have an evacuation kit and/or stockpile of daily essentials prepared for an emergency

Emergency Goods

Priority items you should have ready to take with you immediately in the event of a disaster.

- Bottled water (two 500ml plastic bottles)
- Emergency food rations (dried biscuits etc.)
- Medical/prescription diary
- Items to prevent infection (face masks, etc.)
- Medical supplies (daily medications)
- Portable radio
- Charger for mobile phone (Portable battery charger)
- Warm clothes
- Rainwear (raincoat etc.)
- Flashlight
- Identification (passport etc.)
- Personal valuables etc.

Make sure to pack these items in a rucksack or backpack placed in an easily and quickly accessible location.

Emergency Stockpile

Items to use while awaiting relief aid.

- Bottled Water (3 liters per person/day)
- Blankets
- Non-perishable foodstuffs (canned goods, etc.)
- Tools
- Towels and other toiletries
- Wet tissues
- Portable gas stove

Check these items regularly!

Make sure to have ready enough food for at least 1 week and enough water for at least 3 days.

3. How to stay informed

TV



To ensure you have the most up-to-date information during a disaster, be sure to check all broadcasting stations frequently. Be sure to make use of the data provided by NHK (the Japan Broadcasting Corporation).

Tune in to NHK General

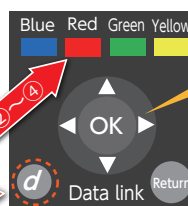
① Press the **d** button on your remote control, then.

② Red button

③ Red button **d** button

④ Red button

On the screen displayed you can check open evacuation centers and evacuation information.



When the screen changes tap here

* The layout of your remote control may differ depending on the model of your TV set.
* Press the red button after the screen changes. Depending on the TV, it may take some time for the data to be displayed. The area needs to be set to Iwaki City.

Radio



Information on disasters, evacuation information and evacuation centers may also be obtained from the radio. In addition, FM Iwaki (76.2MHz) airs emergency government broadcasts.

Emergency government radio Loudspeaker car • Flood warning siren

The siren sounding indicates that a disaster has occurred or is about to occur. Check the situation and if necessary take immediate action to evacuate.

Mobile phone Smartphone



In an emergency, the announcement of vital information regarding evacuation, etc., will be made via the early warning system (Area Mail). The Disaster Management Email Alerts also deliver various kinds of other information.



See here for more about the Disaster Management Email Alerts.

Internet



You can obtain further information regarding disaster management from various websites on the Internet, including the Iwaki City website. In the event of a large-scale disaster, information may be contradictory, so be sure to check the source of information. **Beware of false rumors!**

Iwaki City website

In time of disaster, check information regarding evacuation, evacuation centers, damage and disaster relief.



Iwaki City website Search

Check degree of congestion at evacuation centers

Use the VACAN Maps system to check on a map which evacuation centers are open and how crowded they are.



Iwaki City VACAN MAPS Search

Kikikuru (Risk Distribution Map)

Check on the map for heightened risk of disasters such as landslides and flooding.



Kikikuru Search

Layered hazard map

The system enables the risk of disaster such as tsunami, flooding, landslide, etc., to be displayed superimposed in layers on the map.



Layered hazard map Search

My Evacuation Note

This is a website provided by Fukushima Prefecture where you can create "My Evacuation Sheet," an evacuation plan custom-made for yourself and your loved ones.



Fukushima My Evacuation Note Search

Meteorological Agency Fukushima Local Meteorological Observatory

Check disaster management information, weather forecasts, alerts, etc., for Fukushima.



Fukushima Meteorological Search

Iwaki City Disaster Management Map

To protect yourself and your loved ones from disaster

Taira Region

Special issue

Published in March 2023



The Latest Disaster Information With information on evacuation facilities



? What is the Disaster Management Map?

- ▶ In addition to tsunami and river flooding hazard maps, this map provides regional information on areas at risk of landslide.
 - ▶ Display this map in a prominent place, and familiarize yourself with the disaster risks in your neighborhood, as well as the location of local evacuation centers, evacuation sites and evacuation routes.
- * Evacuation centers are facilities providing temporary living accommodation in the event of a disaster. Evacuation sites are facilities providing temporary shelter in the event of a disaster.

What is the risk of disaster for my home?

- ▶ Check the risks using this map!

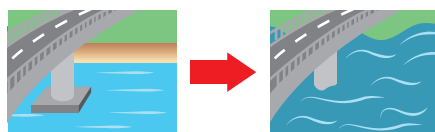
- ☐ Landslide
- ☐ Tsunami Inundation
- ☐ River Flooding



+ one point
If your home is at risk in a disaster, check the location of your local evacuation centers/sites; also the location of a friend's home where you can be safe.

Stay informed about disasters!

Flooding






- During heavy rain, river levels will rise rapidly. Stay away from rivers and waterways.



- Beware of places prone to flooding, such as underpasses.

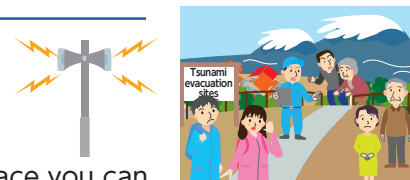
Landslide

- Beware of *Landslide Risk Areas* and *Landslide Hazard Spots* near you.
- In the event of heavy rain or when a landslide warning is announced, be sure to evacuate in good time.
- Know the types of landslides and their telltale signs (such as rumbling on the mountain or sudden spouting of water); evacuate promptly when any such signs are detected.

Landslide 	<input type="checkbox"/> Fissures appear in the slope. <input type="checkbox"/> Small stones patter down. <input type="checkbox"/> Water spurts from the slope.	Mudflow 	<input type="checkbox"/> The river water suddenly becomes turbid. <input type="checkbox"/> The water level goes down even though it continues to rain. <input type="checkbox"/> The mountain rumbles.	Landslip 	<input type="checkbox"/> The ground cracks and caves in. <input type="checkbox"/> Trees tilt. <input type="checkbox"/> Well water and mountain stream water become muddied.
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Earthquake • Tsunami

- If an earthquake occurs, before all else take action to ensure your own safety, such as protecting your head.
- A siren will sound when a tsunami warning is issued. Evacuate immediately.
- The tsunami may be higher than expected. Evacuate to the highest, furthest place you can.



Types of weather information/evacuation information and the action you should take

Severe weather information issued by the Japan Meteorological Agency	Higher	Emergency Warning	There is a significantly increased risk of a major disaster.
		Landslide Alert Information	There is a significantly increased risk of landslide due to heavy rain.
		Information on record levels of heavy rain over a short period	Issued once every few years when torrential rain is observed (in Iwaki City, rainfall of 100mm in the space of an hour).
		Heavy Rain Warning Flood Warning	There is a significantly increased risk of a major disaster due to heavy rain/flooding.
		Heavy Rain Advisory • Flood Advisory	A disaster may occur due to heavy rain/flooding.

In the case of heavy rain

Alert Level	The evacuation information that is issued	Situation	Specific situation	Action you should take
5	Emergency Safety Measures	A disaster has occurred or is imminent	• A Heavy Rain Emergency Warning is issued. • The river has or is about to overflow. • A landslide has occurred.	Take immediate action to protect life.
4	Evacuation Instruction	There is a high possibility of a disaster	• River levels have exceeded the evacuation warning water level, and are expected to reach hazardous water levels. • There is a strong likelihood of landslide.	Prompt evacuation of all persons from the hazardous area.
3	Evacuation of the elderly, infirm, etc.	There is a possibility of disaster	• River levels have exceeded the advisory water level, and are expected to reach the evacuation warning water level. • There is the likelihood of landslide, and it is expected that the continuing rain will increase the risk.	Persons (such as the elderly and disabled) who may need more time to evacuate should evacuate from the hazardous area.
2	—	Worsening weather conditions	—	Use the hazard map and other resources to check evacuation routes.
1	—	Possibility of worsening weather conditions from now	—	Improve mental preparedness for a disaster.

In the case of a Tsunami

For details, be sure to check the **Tsunami Hazard Map**.

Type	Actions to take
Major Tsunami Warning (Evacuation Instruction)	Persons in coastal regions or beside rivers (especially those in coloured areas on the tsunami hazard map), must evacuate immediately to a safe place such as higher ground or an evacuation building . Tsunami waves are expected to hit repeatedly. Do not leave safe ground until the warning is lifted . Do not assume that where you are is safe; get as high and as far away as possible .
Tsunami Warning (Evacuation Instruction)	Persons in coastal regions or beside rivers (especially those in coloured areas on the tsunami hazard map), must evacuate immediately to a safe place such as higher ground or an evacuation building . Tsunami waves are expected to hit repeatedly. Do not leave safe ground until the warning is lifted . Do not assume that where you are is safe; get as high and as far away as possible .
Tsunami Advisory (Evacuation Instruction)	If you are in the sea or between the sea and the coastal embankment, move away from the coast at once . Do not enter the sea or approach coastal regions until the tsunami advisory is lifted.

Even if no evacuation information has yet been issued, if you feel something is not right or that there is danger, begin the evacuation process immediately.

When evacuating

When an evacuation information is issued, those living in hazardous areas must begin the evacuation process immediately. Talk with your family and loved ones regularly about the safest evacuation strategy depending on the situation.

How to approach evacuation

Evacuation does not mean simply moving to an evacuation center. It also includes the following actions. It is important to evacuate as soon as possible and have multiple evacuation ways.

Move away from the dangerous area (horizontal evacuation)

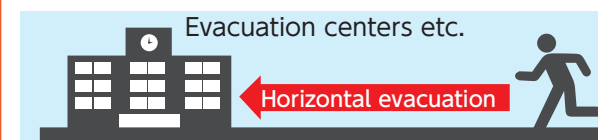
[Conditions]

When it is dangerous to stay in an area where flooding is expected or where landslides may occur.

[Actions for evacuation]

Evacuate to an Evacuation Center (*), an evacuation sites, nearby high ground, or a relative's house where there is little risk of disaster.

*For evacuation centers established by the city, check the city website or TV data broadcasts.



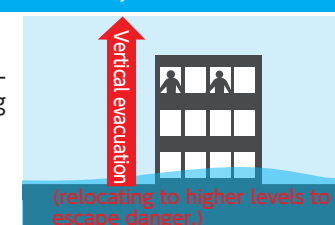
Relocating to higher levels to escape danger (Vertical evacuation)

[Conditions]

When you are in a sturdy, tall building, or there is such a building nearby that you can evacuate to.

[Actions for evacuation]

Relocate to a higher floor.



[Conditions]

At night, or when evacuating outside would pose a greater risk to your safety.

[Actions for evacuation]

Take refuge in a safe, secure location inside the building.



Things to pay attention to when evacuating

Before leaving home

- Do not forget to bring your emergency evacuation kit.
- Close the main gas valve.
- Turn off the circuit breaker.
- Leave behind a memo with information of where you are evacuating to, etc.



Check with your neighbors

The elderly, children, disabled persons and others who will take more time to evacuate should evacuate early. In the event of a disaster, everyone in the community should help each other and evacuate safely.



As a rule, evacuate on foot.

If your car is immersed in water it may stop running, or the water pressure may prevent the door from opening and you may not be able to escape. As far as possible avoid evacuating by car; as a rule, evacuation should be on foot.



Evacuate using safe routes

When evacuating, avoid going near rivers or cliffs, and roads that have high concrete-block walls. As gutter covers and manhole covers may be displaced due to heavy rain, be careful not to fall in.



Clothing for evacuation

When evacuating, wear clothing that does not restrict movement. In winter, be sure to take measures against the cold; wear warm clothes and gloves! Also, as far as possible, take action in groups of two or more.



Disaster Message Board Service

In the event of a disaster, this voice message board can be used to inform your loved ones of your safety, and to ascertain the safety of others. An online Disaster Message Board (web171) is also available.



You can try it out on the 1st and 15th of every month. Have a practice! In time of disaster, each mobile phone carrier provides a Disaster Message Board service.

- Step. 1** 171 Disaster Message Board by phone.
- Step. 2** Record message 1 Play back message 2
- Step. 3** Enter the phone number to which you want to record or from which you want to play back a message.
(X X X X) X X - X X X X
In the case of a landline number, enter the area code (such as 0246). Recording and playback are also available by mobile phone.
- Step. 4** Follow the instructions to record or play back messages.