**What you should know about Tsunami risks in Tokeland, WA**

It's important to note that if you are in a coastal community and feel shaking that lasts for more than 20 seconds, or if you hear a tsunami warning siren, you should immediately move inland or to higher ground as soon as possible, even if no official evacuation order has been given. This is because tsunamis can move very quickly and without warning, and every minute counts when it comes to saving lives.

What is a tsunami?

A tsunami is a series of ocean waves caused by an underwater earthquake, landslide, or volcanic eruption. These waves can be very dangerous and cause significant damage to coastal communities.

**What should I do in case of a tsunami warning?**



If a tsunami warning is issued, you should take the following steps:

**Evacuate immediately:** Do not wait for official instructions. Head to higher ground or inland as quickly as possible. The designated evacuation locations for the Shoalwater Bay Indian Tribe are Eagle Hill or the Tsunami Tower located at the end of Blackberry Lane.

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Follow evacuation routes: Tokeland is a small coastal community located in Pacific County, Washington state, United States. In the event of a tsunami, the community of Tokeland has designated evacuation routes to guide residents and visitors to safety.

The designated tsunami evacuation route for Tokeland is State Route 105, which runs parallel to the coastline. If a tsunami warning is issued for Tokeland, residents and visitors should immediately evacuate to higher ground, following the signs and directions provided along the designated evacuation route. If you are in the middle or southern portion of the Tokeland peninsula, you should evacuate to the ‘Auntie Lee’ Tsunami tower located near the Blackberry Lane community.

Bring essential items: If time allows, bring essential items such as medications, important documents, and a go-bag with emergency supplies.

**Go Kits:** A Go Kit should contain very basic supplies that are kept near your front door or in your car so as to be available for an evacuation. Click the link for more information about [Go Kits](https://www.ready.gov/kit)

Stay informed: Listen to the radio or TV for updates and instructions. Do not return to the coast until authorities have issued an all-clear.

Practice drills: Be sure to practice tsunami evacuation drills with your family and community to ensure everyone knows what to do in case of an emergency. The Shoalwater Bay Tribe holds community wide evacuation exercises twice a year. The Yellow Brick Road health and safety fair and Great Shakeout events happen in July/August and October respectively.

**What should I do during a tsunami?**

If you are unable to evacuate during a tsunami warning, take the following steps:

**Move to higher ground:** Move to the highest possible point inland or to an upper floor of a sturdy building.

**Avoid the coast:** Stay away from the coast and do not go near the water.

**Stay informed:** Listen to the radio or TV for updates and instructions.

Be prepared: Have emergency supplies on hand such as food, water, and first aid kits.

What should I do after a tsunami?

After a tsunami, take the following steps:

**Return home with caution:** Do not return to your home or business until authorities have issued an all-clear.

**Check for damage:** Inspect your property for damage and report any damage to local authorities.

**Stay informed:** Listen to the radio or TV for updates and instructions.

**Be prepared:** Have emergency supplies on hand such as food, water, medications and first aid kits.

**What are distant source tsunamis?**

Distant source tsunamis are tsunamis that are generated by an earthquake or other event far away from the coast. These tsunamis can take hours to reach the coast, giving authorities more time to issue warnings and evacuate people in the affected areas.

**What is a tsunami warning, watch, or advisory?**

A tsunami warning means that a tsunami has been detected and is expected to hit the coast within the next few hours. This is a time-critical situation, and you should evacuate immediately to higher ground.

A tsunami watch means that a tsunami is possible in the area, but its arrival time is uncertain. This means that you should prepare to evacuate and monitor local media for updates.

A tsunami advisory means that a tsunami has been detected, but it is not expected to cause significant flooding or damage. However, you should still be cautious and stay away from the coast.

**AHAB Sirens:**

The Shoalwater Bay Indian Tribe has three All Hazard Alert Broadcast sirens located in Tokeland. These sirens are used to alert residents of tsunami warnings. When you hear the siren, you should immediately evacuate to higher ground or follow designated evacuation routes.

Remember, tsunamis are unpredictable and can happen at any time. Being prepared and knowing what to do in case of an emergency can save your life.

Follow this link for more information about Tsunami events <https://www.ready.gov/tsunamis>.