

Acquire knowledge on evacuation

When a disaster occurs and it becomes dangerous to stay indoors, you must calmly and quickly evacuate. When doing so, always place the protection of those who require particular protection during a disaster, such as children and the elderly, first. Community cooperation is also required, such as checking in on elderly residents living alone.

Basic concepts when evacuating

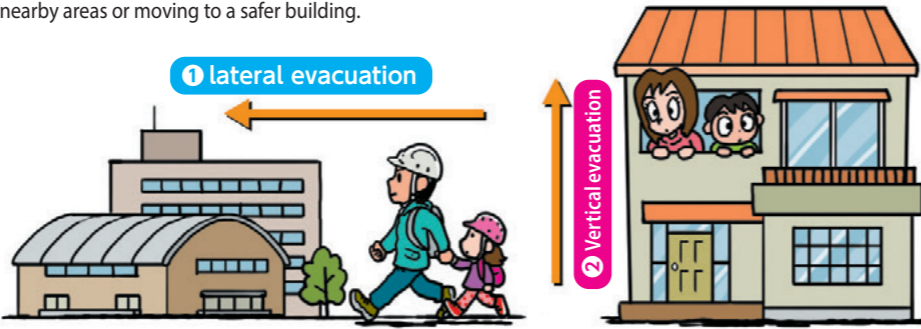
Decide for yourself if evacuation is necessary

During a disaster, the situation that one is placed in differs for every individual. You must make your own decisions and act in an appropriate manner.



Take the actions necessary to evacuate and protect your life

Avoid evacuations in dangerous situations if possible and place the securing of safety as the highest priority. If danger is imminent, you need to not merely move to the specified evacuation area **1 lateral evacuation**, but rather to take the actions necessary to protect your own life, which means moving to an area safer than nearby areas or moving to a safer building.



1 lateral evacuation

- It is difficult to determine dangerous locations along the evacuation route because it is night or it is raining.
- There is flooding above the knees (over 50 cm)
- Flooding is around 20 cm, but the speed of the waterflow is fast.
- Flooding is around 10cm, but the location of gutters is unknown and there is a risk of tripping or falling.

2 Vertical evacuation

Moving to the outside is dangerous. If you determine that there is no danger of the building collapsing due to flooding, evacuate temporarily to the 2nd floor or higher (3rd floor or higher in the event of a tsunami) of the residence or a nearby building and consider waiting to be rescued.

Evacuation advisories and other notifications based on warning levels

※Warning levels are used in cases of flooding, landslide disasters, storm surges and rainfall inundation (tsunamis are not categorized into warning levels).


Warning level	Recommended action for residents, etc.	Evacuation information, etc.
Warning level 5 (municipal order)	The disaster has already occurred; take the most appropriate action to protect your life.	Disaster occurrence information ※ ※Order is issued to the extent possible whenever a disaster is confirmed to have occurred
Warning level 4 (municipal order)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">●Evacuate to a designated emergency evacuation area or other place of safe refuge.●In the event of a likely imminent disaster or other situation where you determine that evacuation to a designated emergency evacuation area at that point in time is too risky, quickly evacuate to nearby safe location, to the safest room in your building or to some other place of safe shelter.	Evacuation advisory, evacuation order (emergency) ※ ※Issued in response to local conditions for the sake of ordering an emergency evacuation or for repeatedly prompting residents to evacuate
Warning level 3 (municipal order)	The elderly and others who need more time and assistance in evacuating should begin evacuating. Others should begin preparing to evacuate and then voluntarily evacuating.	Prepare to evacuate / The elderly and others begin evacuating
Warning level 2 (Meteorological Agency announcements)	Take voluntary action to prepare for evacuation, such as by using a hazard map to check disaster risks, evacuation areas, routes and timing as well as by confirming how and where to obtain evacuation information.	Advisories (heavy rain, flooding, etc.)
Warning level 1 (Meteorological Agency announcements)	Pay attention to the latest weather bulletins and other severe weather information in preparation for a possible disaster.	Early advisory (can be at the level of a warning)

Evacuating safely

When an evacuation advisory is issued, promptly evacuate. Do not determine on your own that "it's still OK". The point to protecting your life is to always be one step ahead.


1 Be prepared in advance

Be sure to regularly check safe routes to the evacuation area.



2 Keep belongings to a minimum

Carry belongings on your back and keep both hands free.



3 Dress in clothes that are easy to move in and provide protection

Protect your head with a helmet or disaster prevention hood and wear laced athletic shoes. Bare feet and boots are dangerous.


Wear a helmet or disaster prevention hood. (If you do not have either, wear a hat)

Wear work gloves or regular gloves.

Keep primary emergency items in a backpack that you can shoulder. (To keep both hands free)


Wear broken in shoes with thick soles.

Wear long sleeved and long pants that are made from flame resistant material (choose cotton products over polyester or other synthetic materials).



4 Don't use a car

Cars start to float in only tens of centimeters of flooding. They are also dangerous, obstructing other evacuees and emergency vehicles.



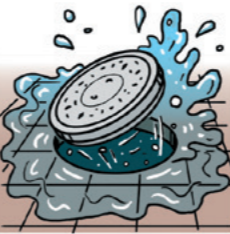
5 Communicate with neighbors

Evacuations should be in groups of 2 or more people. Gather neighbors, tie yourselves together with a rope and evacuate in a group. To ensure safety, carry the elderly and sick on your back and have children wear flotation devices.




6 Watch your step

There are dangerous locations under the surface of the water such as manholes and gutters. Use a long stick to check around you while you walk.




7 Beware of water depth

People are able to walk in depths of up to approximately 50cm. In fast flowing waters, walking is dangerous even in depths of 20cm.



8 Be aware of weather information when at the evacuation area

Cooperate and assist each other at the evacuation area. Check on the effects and state of the disaster and future weather conditions.



The 10 rules to be aware of during an evacuation

- Check fire sources! Main gas valves / electricity circuit breakers
 - Hold the hands of children and elderly when evacuating
 - Keep the disaster prevention card with you
 - Move to the evacuation area as a group with neighbors
 - Evacuate on foot! Never use cars!
- Protect your head with helmets or disaster prevention hoods
 - Use contact memos to leave messages for family members
 - Set a route! Always avoid dangerous roads, walls, riverbanks and other dangerous areas
 - Keep belongings to an absolute minimum
 - Evacuate to the designated evacuation area