

CB59 (July 1, 2015)

Disaster Prevention① Assessing the Risks 防災情報① 津

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波・液状化予測情報の入手方法

As introduced in the previous issue, the IAC offers foreign residents advice on what they should do before, during and after an earthquake or a tsunami. In this first of a series of articles, the IAC explains how to assess the risks you face in your area of Chigasaki.

To prepare for an earthquake or a tsunami, you should first learn about what scale of earthquakes or tsunamis will possibly strike Chigasaki in the future. According to a report by the “Headquarters for Earthquake Research Promotion”, there is a very high possibility that a Tokyo Metro Earthquake or a Tokai Earthquake with a resultant tsunami will occur within the next 30 years. Also, according to a report by Kanagawa Prefecture this February, it is estimated that a 9.6-meter-high tsunami could reach Chigasaki in as little as 16 minutes after an earthquake.

In addition, the City provides residents with the “Chigasaki-shi tsunami hazard map” and the “Chigasaki-shi liquefaction hazard map”. You can use these maps to find out, respectively, the height above sea level and predicted flood water depth, and the possibility of liquefaction, in your area of the city. Copies of these maps are available from the City Office: please go to the “Disaster Measures Section” (市役所防災課) for a tsunami hazard map, and to the “City Policy Section” (市役所都市政策課) for a liquefaction hazard map.

You can also access the tsunami hazard map on the Chigasaki City website, as follows: go to: www.city.chigasaki.kanagawa.jp/ →Foreigner Guide (top of the screen) →Start Translation (select your preferred language: English, Chinese, Korean, French, Germany, Italian, Spanish or Portuguese) →Disaster Measures (second from the top of left-hand list) →Tsunami measures →Chigasaki-shi tsunami hazard map.

CB60 (September 1, 2015)

Disaster Prevention② Preparing for Earthquakes

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防災情報② 地震発生前の諸準備

Following last issue’s article on assessing the risks you face locally in relation to earthquakes and tsunami, this issue’s second in a series of IAC articles on disaster prevention focuses on the preparations you should make before a seismic event, namely:

- ① Confirm the strength of your house and reinforce if necessary.
- ② Secure your furniture and electrical appliances.
- ③ Prepare food, water and disaster stores.
- ④ Pack everything you need for evacuation in a bag and have it ready.
- ⑤ Confirm the location of your nearest evacuation area or tsunami temporary evacuation site, and make sure of how to get there.
- ⑥ Make sure you know how to get back to your home if there is no transport available.
- ⑦ Make sure your family knows how to contact each other if they are not together.
- ⑧ Take part in your community’s disaster prevention drill.

With regard to evacuation sites, the City has secured 8 safety evacuation areas, 32 anti-disaster measures district emergency management bases (refuges), and 168 tsunami temporary evacuation places. You can access this information on the Chigasaki City website, as follows: go to: www.city.chigasaki.kanagawa.jp/ →Foreigners Guide (top of the screen) →Start Translation (select your preferred language: English, Chinese, Korean, French, German, Italian, Spanish or Portuguese) →Disaster Measures (second from the top of left-hand list) →Refuge, Evacuation Site

CB61 (November 1, 2015)

Disaster Prevention③ What We Should Do after a big Earthquake

防災情報③ 地震発生直後の行動

This third issue on disaster prevention focuses on the actions we should take immediately following a serious seismic event, namely:

- ① Stay under a large table until the quake has passed when you are at home; stay away from walls when you are outside.
- ② Turn off any sources of fire or heat when the shaking calms down.
- ③ Get accurate information from the radio, TV, fire stations, local authorities, etc.
- ④ If appropriate, leave your residence quickly but carefully when shaking stops remembering to pick up your evacuation bag(s), and take refuge in an evacuation area or a tsunami temporary evacuation place.

The City has secured 8 safety evacuation areas, 32 anti-disaster measures district emergency management bases (refuges), and 168 tsunami temporary evacuation places. You can access this information on the Chigasaki City website, as follows: go to: www.city.chigasaki.kanagawa.jp/ →Foreigners Guide (top of the screen) →Start Translation (select your preferred language) →Disaster Measures (second from the top of left-hand list) →Refuge, Evacuation Site

Foreigners who are unable to understand media broadcasts in Japanese should ensure they know how to get accurate updates in English or their own language. We also recommend that you register to receive email alerts. For advice, go to Disaster Measures →Intelligence at the time of disaster →We began area email service.

CB62 (January 1, 2016)

Disaster Prevention④ Contacting your Family

防災情報④ 家族の安否を確認する方法

This fourth issue on disaster prevention focuses on the public messaging services that are available to help us get in contact with family members following a serious seismic event. There are two ways to inform your family of your situation or find out if your family is safe:

● The “Disaster Emergency Message Dial” service

Record your message via home telephone, mobile phone or public phone.

- ✧ Posting a recorded message, for example, that you are safe: Dial 171 +Dial 1 +Dial your home phone number (start from the area code), and then record your message.
- ✧ Playing a recorded message to check if your family is safe: Dial 171 +Dial 2 +Dial your home phone number (start from the area code), and then play any messages.

● The “Disaster Message Board Service”

Guidance messages will appear on the home page of each mobile phone company’s website at the time of a disaster.

- ✧ Posting your message: Select “Register” on the screen for “Disaster Message Board Service” +Enter your message, and then select “Register”.
- ✧ Checking for messages: Select “Confirm” on the screen for “Disaster Message Board Service” +Enter your family member’s mobile phone number, and then select “Access”.

CB63 (March 1, 2016)

Disaster Prevention⑤ Emergency Warnings

防災情報⑤ 特別警報

This fifth and last issue on disaster prevention focuses on the Japan Meteorological Agency’s (JMA’s) Emergency Warning System. The JMA launched their system on August 30, 2013. Emergency warnings are issued to alert people to the significant likelihood of catastrophes in association with natural phenomena of extraordinary magnitude.

The JMA had previously issued various warnings to alert people to possible catastrophes caused by extraordinary phenomena such as heavy rain, earthquakes, tsunami and storm surges. In addition to such warnings, advisories and other bulletins, the JMA started issuing Emergency Warnings in 2013 to alert people to the significant likelihood of a catastrophe if phenomena were expected to be of a scale far exceeding warning criteria, as in: ① the major tsunami caused by the 2011 Great East Japan Earthquake in which 18,000 people were killed or remain unaccounted for; ② the 1959 storm surge in Ise Bay caused by Typhoon Vera, which claimed more than 5,000 lives; and ③ the torrential rain of 2011 caused by Typhoon Talas, responsible for another 100 fatalities or missing persons.

The issuance of Emergency Warnings in an area indicates a level of exceptional risk of a magnitude observed only once every few decades. Residents should pay attention to their surroundings and relevant information such as municipal evacuation advisories and orders, and take all steps necessary to protect life.

Lastly, if you use an NTT docomo, KDDI au, or SoftBank cellular phone, you will receive JMA Emergency Warnings through their emergency e-mail services.