

# STORMREADY® AND TSUNAMIREADY® PROGRAMS



NATIONAL OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION • UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

To help guard against the ravages of severe weather, NOAA's National Weather Service designed StormReady®—a grass roots program aimed at preparing communities with the communication and safety tools necessary to help save lives.

The top goal of StormReady is to prepare communities with an action plan that responds to all types of severe weather threats—from tornadoes to tsunamis. A voluntary program, StormReady provides clear-cut advice to community leaders and emergency managers to improve local hazardous weather operations.

Once StormReady, a community is eligible to become TsunamiReady®. This expansion of the StormReady program helps coastal communities reduce the potential for disastrous tsunami-related consequences. It builds upon StormReady to provide at-risk communities with the skills and education needed to better survive a tsunami before, during, and after the event.

To be recognized as StormReady and TsunamiReady, communities must meet preparedness criteria outlined through a partnership between the National Weather Service and state and local emergency managers. As part of those criteria, communities must:

- Establish a 24-hour warning point and emergency operations center,
- Have more than one method of receiving severe weather forecasts and warnings and alerting the public,

- Create a system that monitors local weather conditions,
- Promote the significance of public readiness through community seminars, and
- Develop a formal hazardous weather plan, which includes training severe weather spotters and holding exercises.

An advisory board comprised of National Weather Service warning coordination meteorologists and state and local emergency managers review community applications and visit the locations to verify all criteria are met. After the advisory board approves certification, the community receives a formal letter and StormReady and/or TsunamiReady signs that can be displayed along major roadways. StormReady and TsunamiReady communities must stay freshly prepared, because the designation is only valid for three years.

No community is storm or tsunami proof, but StormReady and TsunamiReady help community leaders and emergency managers strengthen local operations, reduce fatalities, and minimize property damage by planning well before disaster strikes.



For more information about StormReady, visit <http://www.nws.noaa.gov/stormready>

For more information about TsunamiReady, visit <http://www.tsunamiready.noaa.gov>

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