

TSUNAMI



This fact sheet contains information on suggested actions to perform before, during and after a tsunami. It also contains information about warnings, emergency contacts and general information to consider when writing emergency management plan.

Tsunami warnings

Tsunami warnings are issued by the Bureau of Meteorology (BoM) and distributed to media outlets and emergency management agencies such as the State Emergency Service (SES). The SES website will also distribute warnings on its website at www.ses.vic.gov.au/warnings. Tsunami warnings have two categories based on the threat:

- Marine Environment – the tsunami will mainly affect the marine environment for specific coastal areas.
- Land Inundation Threat – the tsunami may cause land flooding, dangerous waves and strong ocean currents for low-lying areas.

If the threat is cancelled, a national no threat bulletin will be issued.

Emergency contacts

Contact	Number
Life-threatening emergency (police, fire, ambulance)	000 (Triple Zero)
State Emergency Service (SES)	132 500
Joint Australian Tsunami Warning Centre	1300 878 6264 (1300 Tsunami)

Important information about a tsunami

Tsunami risk is low but still possible in Victoria. Even a small tsunami that may not affect coastal communities could be dangerous for swimmers and mariners.

Tsunami are usually generated by large undersea earthquakes. In the event of a large undersea earthquake, data is analysed to determine whether the earthquake may generate a tsunami that will affect the Australian coastline.

For more information about tsunami visit the Joint Australian Tsunami Warning Centre website.

Action plan for a tsunami

Please note: these actions are general suggestions only, you will need to think of details and triggers that are specific to your park.

Suggested actions to take once a tsunami warning is issued or after a large undersea earthquake occurs

- Alert all park occupants of the situation.
- Ensure that all park occupants are out of the water and away from the beach (including boats).
- Return all boats to shore and ensure they are secured (Vessels already at sea should stay offshore in deep water until further advised).
- Follow the advice of emergency authorities.

Suggested actions to take during a tsunami

- Move to higher ground immediately. Try to get to at least ten metres above sea level.
- If you cannot reach high ground, shelter in the upper floor of the closest sturdy building.
- Locate your emergency kit and take it with you.
- Tune into your emergency broadcasters - ABC Local Radio, commercial radio and designated community radio stations, or SKY NEWS Television.

Suggested actions to take after a tsunami

- Ensure occupant do not return to the beach or harbour until officials advice it is safe to do so.

