

# Be prepared for typhoons and heavy rains by checking the evacuation decision flowchart together with a hazard map

Check during normal times

With the mindset of protecting your own life, check the disaster risks at your home and the actions you should take.

## Evacuation decision flowchart

What evacuation action should you take?

Try it and find out!

Find your home on the hazard map\* and mark it.

\*Hazard maps show the areas at high risk of flood or landslides in color. Disasters can still occur in areas that are not colored.

Is your home in an area that is colored?

No

Even if the area is not colored, if your home is in an area that is lower than the surrounding land, near a cliff, etc., evacuate as necessary using the evacuation information from your municipality as a guide.

Yes

There is the danger of a disaster, so in principle\*, you need to evacuate to somewhere outside your home.

Exception

\*Even if there is danger of flooding, it is possible to remain in your home and stay safe if  
(1) Your home is outside the zone at high risk of homes being destroyed in a flood  
(2) You are in a place higher up than the flood depth  
(3) You can wait until the water recedes if there is a flood, and have enough food, water and other supplies.  
\*Even if there is the danger of a landslide, it is possible to remain in your home and stay safe if you live high up, such as in a sturdy, multi-story apartment building.

See explanation on the back

Do you or someone you are with need extra time to evacuate?

No

Yes

Do you have a relative or an acquaintance who lives in a safe place where you can go?

Yes

When a alert level 3 is issued, **evacuate to the safe home of the relative or acquaintance** (discuss your plans regularly with them)

No

When a alert level 3 is issued, **evacuate to the designated emergency evacuation site** designated by your municipality

Do you have a relative or an acquaintance who lives in a safe place where you can go?

Yes

When a alert level 4 is issued, **evacuate to the safe home of the relative or acquaintance** (discuss your plans regularly with them)

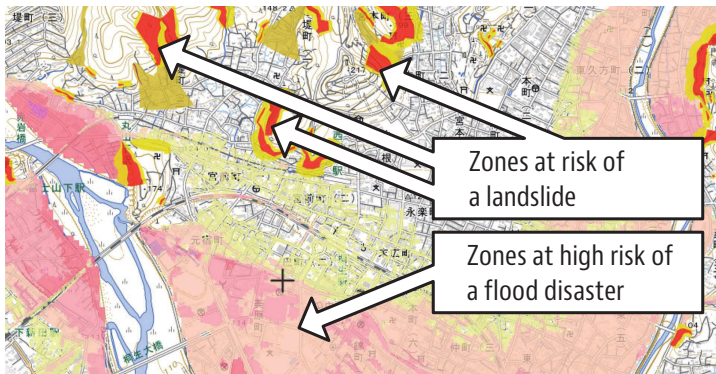
No

When a alert level 4 is issued, **evacuate to the designated emergency evacuation site** designated by your municipality

# Reference information for the evacuation decision flowchart

## How to read hazard maps

## Make sure to check your map




### Flood disaster


Anticipated flood zones (flood depth)

3rd/4th floor	5m - less than 10m (flood above 3rd floor to under the eaves of the 4th floor)
2nd floor	3m - less than 5m (flood above 2nd floor to under the eaves)
1st floor	0.5m - less than 3m (flood above floor level to under the eaves)
Under the 1st floor	Less than 0.5m (flood under the 1st floor)

### Legend

#### Landslide

Landslide hazard zones:  Zones at risk of a landslide

Landslide special hazard zones:  Zones with considerable danger of destruction to buildings and loss of life or physical harm to people occurring



\*The colors and legend on hazard maps may vary according to your municipality.

(Japanese only) <https://disaportal.gsi.go.jp/>

## How to read hazard maps

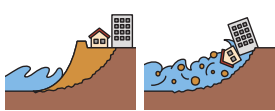
## For people who want more information

If you can ensure the following three conditions, it is possible to remain at home and stay safe even if there is flood danger

(1) You are not in an anticipated inundation zone with risk of homes being destroyed.



Because the water flow is fast, wooden homes are at risk of collapsing.



Homes where the ground has been torn away are at risk of caving in.

(2) Rooms in your home are higher up than the flood water depth.

3rd/4th floor	5m - less than 10m (flood above 3rd floor to under the eaves of the 4th floor)
2nd floor	3m - less than 5m (flood above 2nd floor to under the eaves)
1st floor	0.5m - less than 3m (flood above floor level to under the eaves)
Under the 1st floor	Less than 0.5m (flood under the 1st floor)

(3) You can wait until the water recedes, and have enough food, water and other supplies.



\* (1) Anticipated inundation zones with risk of homes being destroyed, and (3) duration of floods are not always shown on hazard maps, so inquire with the municipal office where you live. Multiple hazard maps do not show these either.

\* Even if there is danger of a landslide, it is possible to remain home and stay safe if you live high up in a sturdy building, such as a multi-story apartment building.



**Evacuate from hazardous places if a alert level 3 or 4 is issued**



**Evacuate means to escape danger. If you are in a safe place, you do not need to evacuate**



**Evacuation shelters are not only elementary and junior high schools and community centers. Also think about evacuating to a relative's or an acquaintance's home that is safe**

\* There are many places you could potentially evacuate to in an emergency, including designated emergency evacuation sites designated by municipalities as well as a relative's or an acquaintance's home that is safe. During normal times is when to decide where to evacuate to.

\* Designated emergency evacuation sites are places designated as safe for each type of disaster (elementary and junior high schools, community centers, etc.).

\* If your home is damaged and you cannot go back after the disaster situation has calmed down, go to a designated evacuation shelter to stay there for a while.

If you are unsure about anything, inquire at the municipal office where you live.

Reference: Cabinet Office's Disaster Management in Japan webpage: Working Group on the Review of Evacuation from Typhoon No. 19 in October 2019 (in Japanese)

(<http://www.bousai.go.jp/fusuigai/typhoonworking/index.html>)

# Check the key evacuation information and evacuate during a typhoon and/or heavy rain



## Key evacuation information

**! ..... Make sure to check this ..... !**

### Evacuation information issued by municipalities (alert levels)

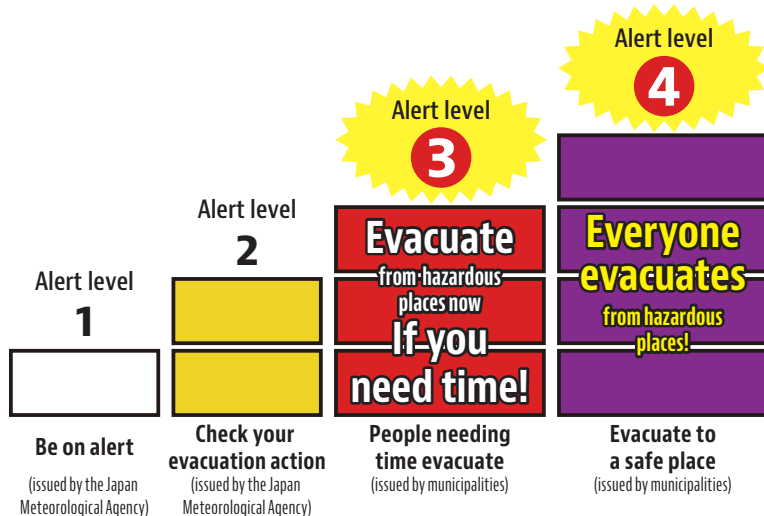


**Evacuate means to escape danger, in other words, to ensure your safety. If you are in a safe place, you do not need to evacuate.**



**If you are in a hazardous place, at alert level 3 <the elderly and people with special needs evacuate>, and at alert level 4 <everyone evacuates\*1>**

\*1 Alert level 4 <everyone evacuates> is when everyone, not just the elderly and people with special needs, evacuates from hazardous places.



**Alert level 4 is an evacuation advisory to evacuate from hazardous places.**

- The alert levels are separated into five levels to inform residents of the action they should take
- in preparation for a water or landslide, so this information is issued by municipalities together with evacuation information.



**Alert level 5 means that a disaster is already occurring.**

- If a alert level 5 is issued and you have not yet evacuated, take the best action you can to protect your life, such as moving to a safer location in your home, or moving to a safer building if there is one nearby.
- Alert level 5 disaster occurrence information provides information within the scope available when municipalities have been able to get a picture of the disaster. This information is not always issued.



**Evacuating outdoors is dangerous during heavy rains. Please also avoid car travel during heavy rains.**



**Alert level 4 is an evacuation advisory or evacuation warning (emergency)\*2. In either case, you should always evacuate at alert level 4.**

- Alert level 4 evacuation advisories are issued taking into account factors such as the time needed to evacuate and the time of sunset, so it is necessary to evacuate from hazardous places when the advisory is issued.

\*2 Alert level 4 evacuation warnings (emergency) are not always issued, and are sometimes issued urgently according to local conditions or to repeatedly urge people to evacuate.

## River level and rain information (information corresponding to alert levels) issued by the Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism, the Japan Meteorological Agency, and prefectural governments

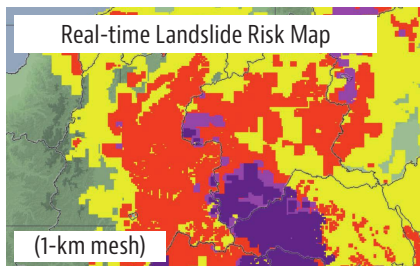
### Check conditions in the area where you live using Real-time Risk Map

• If the Japan Meteorological Agency issues information corresponding to the alert levels\* for individual municipalities, check the detailed information (Real-time Risk Map) that tells you about conditions in the area where you live. [Purple indicates high danger.](#)

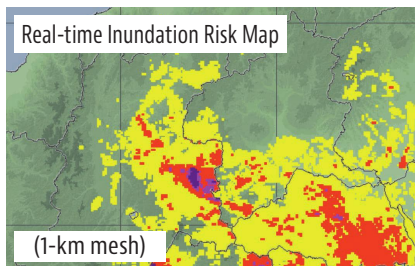
• There are Real-time Risk Map alert services that will automatically send alerts to your smartphone when there is danger in the area where you live if you register your address, so please use one of the services.

Real-time Risk Map

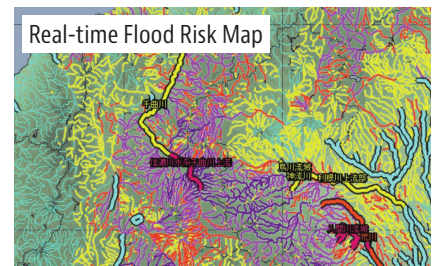
Search



Purple: Danger near cliffs and mountain streams



Purple: Danger in low-lying areas



Purple: Danger along rivers

\* Information announced by individual municipalities includes heavy rain emergency warnings, landslide alerts, and flood warnings.

### Make sure to evacuate at the alert levels issued by your municipality Voluntarily evacuate early using information about the river level and rain from the Japan Meteorological Agency, etc. as a guide

Name: Alert level  
Issued by: Municipalities, etc.  
Content: Evacuation information

Name: Information corresponding to the alert levels  
Issued by: Japan Meteorological Agency, prefectures, etc.  
Content: River level and rain information

Alert level	Required action	Evacuation information	Disaster and weather information (Information corresponding to alert levels)		
			Flood information (Rivers)	Landslide information (Rain)	
5	Best action to protect your life	Disaster occurrence	Equivalent to 5	Flood event information	Heavy rain emergency alert (landslide)
4	Everyone evacuates from hazardous places	Evacuation advisory (Evacuation warning "emergency")	Equivalent to 4	Flood danger	Landslide alert
3	The elderly and others evacuate from hazardous places!	Prepare to evacuate/ The elderly and others begin evacuating	Equivalent to 3	Flood alert Flood warning	Heavy rain warning
2	Check how to evacuate using a hazard map, etc.	Heavy rain advisory Flood advisory	Equivalent to 2	Flood advisory	—
1	Stay alert	Early advisory	Equivalent to 1	—	—

\*Same information in evacuation guidelines in an easier-to-understand language

Municipal leaders make comprehensive decisions about alert level (evacuation information) announcements based on information corresponding to the alert levels (river and rain information) as well as local land use, past disaster information and other data. Therefore, the timing and regions for which alert levels and information corresponding to the alert levels are issued may not always match.

If you are unsure about anything, inquire at the municipal office where you live.

Reference: Cabinet Office's Disaster Management in Japan webpage: Working Group on the Review of Evacuation from Typhoon No. 19 in October 2019 (in Japanese)  
(<http://www.bousai.go.jp/fusuigai/typhoonworking/index.html>)