**Revised/Special Edition** 

**Issued in August 2021** 

Protecting the lives of you and your loved ones

\_\_\_\_\_

from floods and landslides

# Fukushima My Evacuation

## **Plan Booklet**

**Fukushima Prefecture** 



## What used to be OK can now be dangerous

In recent years, floods caused by typhoons and rainstorms were seen all over Japan. In Fukushima, Typhoon Hagibis, followed by torrential rains two weeks later, occurred in 2019. They caused severe damage, with the floods claiming 32 lives, and the maximum number of evacuees was about 26,000.



A survey was conducted targeting those who had suffered damage by Typhoon Hagibis and heavy rains. The results showed that quite a few people were not worried about the disaster before it started raining, and they only evacuated after they felt they were in imminent danger. Many suffered unexpected damage due to the record-high heavy rainfall, even though they had thought that the damage wouldn't be so bad. based on their own experience.



Source: "Disaster response verification report regarding Typhoon Hagibis and heavy rains, etc." by Fukushima Prefecture Disaster Response Verification Committee regarding Typhoon Hagibis and heavy rains

In recent years, there have been several instances of once-in-a-decade heavy rainfall and precipitation that has never been experienced before. Based on what we have learned from Typhoon Hagibis and heavy rains, you should stay vigilant and avoid the mindset that everything's been OK until now while preparing your own evacuation plan (My Evacuation). This is in order to respond to an emergency quickly. Please go through this booklet and think about your evacuation plan. Floods are no longer someone else's problem.

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Important points regarding the verification results of Typhoon Hagibis and heavy rains in 2019

#### **1**Alert Levels

It was found that a high percentage of people who had a concrete evacuation plan evacuated earlier. They thought that they should evacuate before the impact of the typhoon gets bigger, even before the rain started. It is essential to make an evacuation plan beforehand, in accordance with the alert levels.

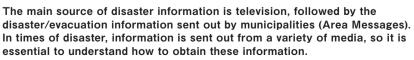
#### **2**Hazard Map

It was found that a high percentage of people who were aware about and understood the hazard map evacuated earlier. It is crucial to check the hazard map regularly, and know the threat that disasters pose to your area, including your home.

#### **3**Evacuation Sites

It is important to make sure you know where to evacuate during a disaster; not only shelters, but also houses of relatives and acquaintances.

#### **4**Gathering Information



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## **Alert Levels** -Know the guidelines for evacuation-

Municipalities will issue the five alert levels along with residential evacuation information. In the event of a disaster, pay attention to the information provided by your local government or prefecture (emergency radio system, local government homepage, TV, radio, etc.).

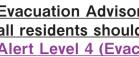


Note 1: An Alert Level 5 is not always issued due to a number of reasons, such as when municipalities are unable to accurately grasp the severity of the disaster Note 2: Evacuation Advisories are no longer issued. Instead. Evacuation Orders will be issued

Note 3: Alert Level 3 indicates that even people other than the elderly, etc. who are living in the evacuating area should stop their usual activities depending on the conditions. They should prepare to evacuate or proceed to evacuate themselves if they feel that they are already in danger.



Elderly citizens, those with disabilities, and others who may need more time to evacuate, should evacuate from affected areas when an Alert Level 3 (Evacuation of the Elderly, etc.) is issued.



Evacuation Advisories are no longer in effect. From now on, all residents should evacuate from affected areas when or before an Alert Level 4 (Evacuation Order) is issued.



Alert Level 5 (Emergency Safety Measures) indicates a lifethreatening situation in which you can no longer safely evacuate. Please evacuate before an Alert Level 5 is issued.

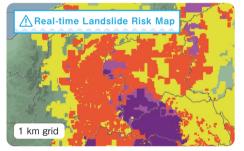


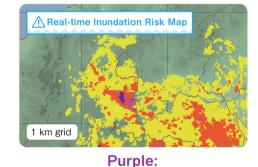
Evacuating outdoors is dangerous during heavy rains. Also, please refrain from evacuating by car.

Evacuate early to a safe location or go to the safest place possible inside your home, such as the 2nd floor.

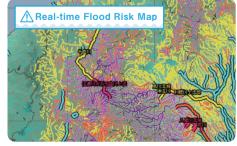
#### Evacuate early by using the river level and rain information as reference

In addition to the alert levels (pictured left) issued by municipalities, use the river level and weather information provided by the Ministry of Land. Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism, the Japan Meteorological Agency, prefectural governments etc., as reference. Check the detailed information on the Real-time Risk Map which tells you about the conditions of the area you live. Purple indicates high danger.





Purple: Danger near cliffs and mountain streams



**Purple: Danger along rivers** 

Danger in low-lying areas Information released by individual

municipalities includes heavy rain emergency warnings, landslide alerts, and flood warnings.

If you register your address, there is a Real-time Risk Map alert service which will automatically send notifications to your smartphone when there is danger in the area you live.



Real-time Risk Map alert service



## **Evacuation Decision Flowchart**

-Check the actions you should take-

You should have the mindset of protecting your own life. Use the Evacuation Decision Flowchart together with the hazard map to determine your home's disaster risk and decide which actions to take.

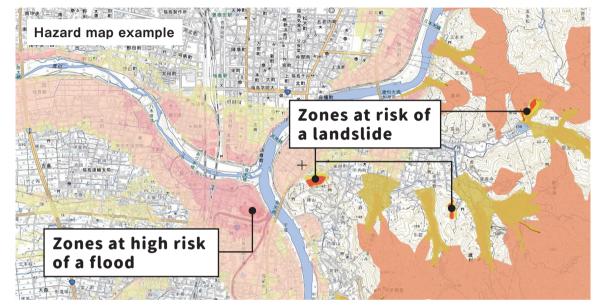
Process (example)	Wea	ther worsening	Risk of disaster		High risk of flood and landslides Disaster occurrence
Alert level	Early Warning Information (Japan Meteorological Agency) Alert Level 1	Heavy Rain, Flood, or Storm Surge Advisories (Japan Meteorological Agency) Alert Level 2	Alert Level Announcement <b>Bracuation of</b> the Elderly, etc.		Alert Level Announcement Evacuation Order & I Secure your safety immediately
(as of August 2021)		Gather information and confirm evacuation procedures.	Begin evacuation for those needing time or assistance. Elderly citizens, those with disabilities, as well as infants and their caretakers, should also begin to evacuate. For others, please be prepared to evacuate at any time. Make arrangements for evacuation while paying attention to the "Information for Severe Weather Preparation" and the water level information of rivers.		Immediately evacuate to an evacuation site.Take the best action you can to protect your life.All people who are in hazardous areas should evacuate immediately.It is a life-threatening situation, as the disaster is already occurring or impending. Take actions to secure your safety as much as possible; for example, going to the upper floor of a house and moving to a room located furthest from a cliff (if you are situated near a cliff).
	What evacuation action should you take?			Note 1	
<b>Evacuation Decision Flowchart</b>	Start!       Find your home on the hazard map and mark it.         Is your home in an area that is colored?       Even if the area is not colored, if your home is in an area that is lower than the surrounding land or near a cliff, etc., evacuate as necessary using the evacuation information from your municipality as a guide.			Time needed to walk 500 m       The depth of water when walking becomes difficult         It is important to know the time it takes to evacuate.       The depth of water when walking becomes difficult         • Adult ····································	
	There is the danger of a disaster, so in principle*, you need to evacuate to somewhere outside your home.		Do you or someone you are with need extra time to evacuate?		No Note 3 Caution in the case of flooding
	possible to rema safe if: (1) Your home is risk of homes be (2) You are in a flood depth. (3) You can wai have enough for * Even if there i those who live i	Exceptions a a possibility of flooding, it is ain in your home and stay s outside the zone at high eing destroyed in a flood. place higher up than the t until the water recedes, and od, water, and other supplies. s a possibility of a landslide, n the upper floors of sturdy be able to ensure their	Do you have a relative or an acquaintance who lives in a safe place where you can go? Yes When an Alert Level 3 is issued, evacuate to the safe home of your relative or acquaintance (discuss your plans regularly with them).		Do you have a relative or an acquaintance who lives in a safe place that you can go to? Yes When an Alert Level 4 is issued, evacuate to the safe home of your relative or acquaintance (discuss your plans regularly with them).
Action		rmation and confirm tion procedures!	The elderly and others should evacuate from hazardous areas!		Everyone evacuates from dangerous places!!       It is a life-threatening situation.         Protect yourself at once!



## **Hazard Map**

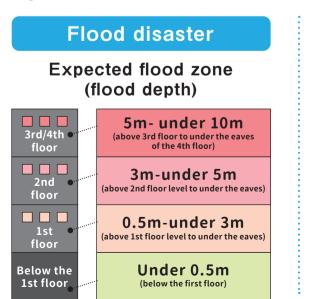
-Identify the flood risk of your home and the neighborhood-

Hazard maps use colors to designate areas at risk of flooding or landslides. As a general rule, it is necessary to evacuate from your home if you reside in an at-risk area. Hazard maps are provided by your town or city, and can be checked by visiting your municipality's homepage.



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

Source: Hazard Map Portal Site



Legend ·····



#### How to read hazard maps

**7** .....

Hazard maps can be viewed through the "Disaster Prevention Information in Fukushima" website, and through the Hazard Map Portal Site (ハザードマップ Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism. Or please use the hazard maps if they have been distributed to you by your municipality.



Disaster Prevention n Fukushima" website

Check to see if your home, workplace, and/or

landslides, volcanic

disasters, etc.



neighborhood are in any of the colored areas on the map. ..... 🔽 .....

Hazard map portal site (Japanese Only)

**3** Assess the expected damage, using the map legend as a reference. \*The colors and legends on hazard maps may vary according to your municipality.

#### Checking hazard maps via the Example: Fukushima City "Disaster Prevention Information in Fukushima" website 福島市 +砂災害ハザードマップ全体図(A0) ~ 県内市町村ハザードマップ ● 福島市全体マップ(北) (PDF: 4,709KB キーワードから探す +砂災害ハザードマップ地区別(A3組) 福島市 二本松市 伊達市 本宮市 プを作成していますので、 防当する地区 奏折町 国見町 川俣町 大玉村 高而(共通情報) くある質問から探 組織情報から探す ハザードマップの見かた、使いかたの情報 (PDF: 926K) サイトマップから探す (1)本庁 (PDF:1.672KB) 南会津 推制支援 「福島市土砂災害ハザードマップ」 いわき Select your Select the map Select the map's city or town **PDF file** vou want to view 福島市土砂災害八ザードマップ Check the expected damage in your area \*There are many kinds of hazard maps, such as those for floods,



### **Evacuation sites**

-Make sure you know where to evacuate in advance-

\_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_

Your municipality determines your evacuation destination. Use the hazard maps and confirm the location of the closest evacuation destination. If you have a relative or an acquaintance who lives in a safe place, consult with them about using their residence as an evacuation destination during an emergency.

#### **Designated emergency** evacuation site



The site is intended for emergency evacuation from dangers such as floods or tsunamis, in order to protect your life. Evacuees should not expect to stay long at the site.

Examples: Parks, school grounds, buildings, etc.



Evacuees may stay at the shelter until the danger has passed, and those whose homes have been damaged may stay temporarily.

Examples: School gymnasiums, community centers, etc.

Public facilities that have been designated as emergency evacuation sites or evacuation shelters are marked with pictograms. Check for the nearby facilities available for evacuation.

#### Welfare evacuation shelter



This is a facility that accepts the elderly, those with disabilities, pregnant women, infants, and others who are unlikely to be able to stay in an ordinary shelter because they need assistance with activities of daily living. Most of these facilities have an easily accessible environment and staff members who provide consultation and other support.

\*There is a limit on the number of people a welfare evacuation shelter can accept. People who are fine with staying at a general shelter cannot stay here. \*These shelters are not always made available from the first day of a disaster occurrence.

#### **Decentralized** evacuation

"Evacuation" does not mean simply going to an evacuation shelter/site. In order to avoid overcrowding in shelters, it has become important to implement measures such as decentralized evacuation depending on the situation.

#### Evacuate to a shelter/site if:

- Your home is at high risk of flood or landslide damage.
- •You are unable to evacuate to the home of a relative or acquaintance.

Go to the evacuation shelter/site operated by your city or town.



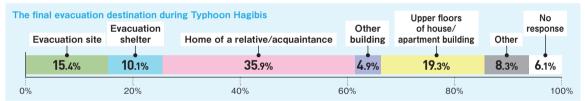
#### Evacuate to a hotel or the home of a relative or acquaintance if:

- The hotel or home in question is at low risk of flooding or landslide.
- The home of a relative or acquaintance is available.

Go to a hotel or home of a relative or acquaintance.

Make sure to consult with your relative or acquaintance beforehand.





Reference: "Disaster response verification report regarding Typhoon Hagibis, etc." by Fukushima Prefecture Disaster Response Verification Committee regarding Typhoon Hagibis

#### You do not need to evacuate from your home if:

- You are not in an expected flood zone with the risk of homes being destroyed.
- Rooms in your home are higher than the flood water depth.
- •You can wait until the water recedes and have enough food, water and other supplies.

Stay home. Go to a safe place inside your home.

#### **Evacuation by Car**

Evacuating by car is dangerous when there is an imminent risk of flood or landslide. When you evacuate after thinking that it is still safe, the water levels can rise rapidly, which can potentially make it impossible to exit the vehicle.



In the case when evacuating by car or staying overnight in your car is unavoidable:

- Go to a safe place outside of the flood zones during daylight and before heavy rainfall begins.
- It is necessary to prepare portable toilets because restrooms may be inaccessible.

Do light exercise, and make sure to drink water and stay hydrated in order to prevent traveler's thrombosis (economy class syndrome) and heatstroke.



### **Countermeasures for COVID-19**

-Think about evacuation and infection prevention during the pandemic-

Even though the COVID-19 pandemic has not yet been contained, in principle, you need to evacuate if you are in a dangerous area during a disaster.



Consider evacuating to the safe home of a relative or acquaintance. This will also help avoid overcrowding in evacuation shelters.



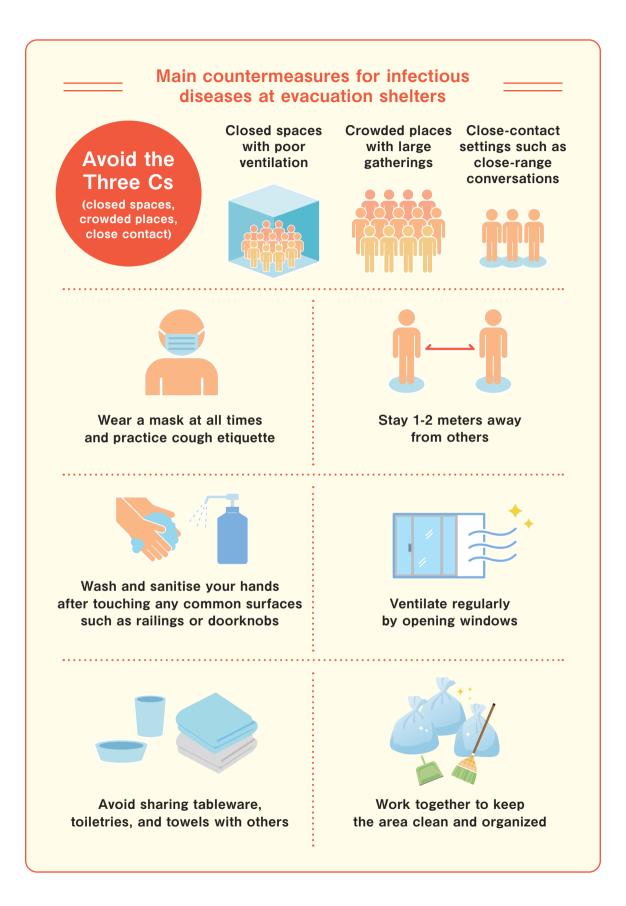
There is a possibility that the number of evacuation shelters/sites designated by your municipality has increased. In the case of a disaster, check your municipality's homepage.



Carry your own masks, disinfectant, and thermometer.



To evacuate means avoiding danger. If there is a low risk of flooding or landslide near your home and you can ensure your safety, you may be able to remain inside, such as on the second floor of your home.



## 6

## **Disaster Kit**

-Figure out what is necessary during an evacuation-

ctious disease

Prepare the necessary items for evacuation beforehand and keep them in a backpack which you can quickly bring in an emergency. Additionally, prepare an emergency supply of food and water in your home in case you stay. Use this checklist to help prepare your disaster kit.



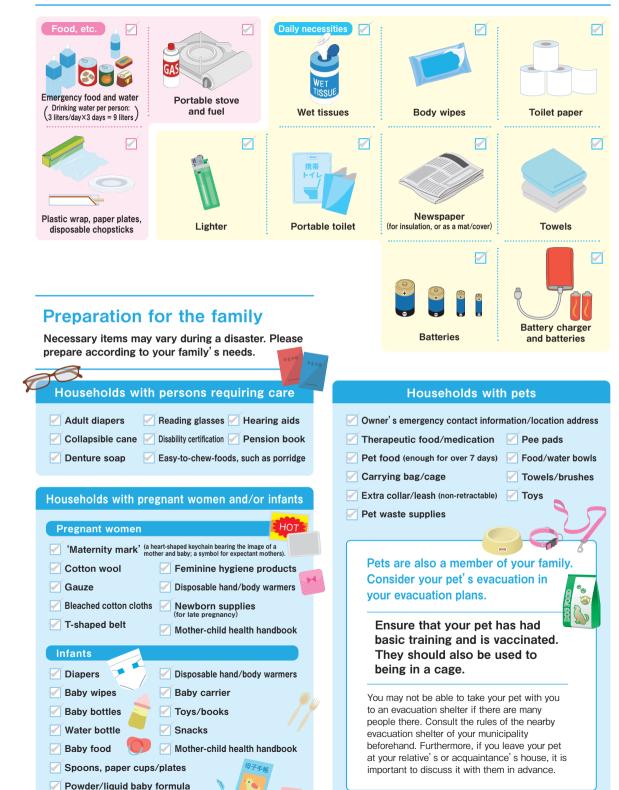
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## Emergency supplies for evacuation



## Emergency supplies for home

These are the minimum supplies needed to stay at home for several days following a disaster and until essential utilities are restored. Prepare supplies for one week (minimum 3 days) if you can.

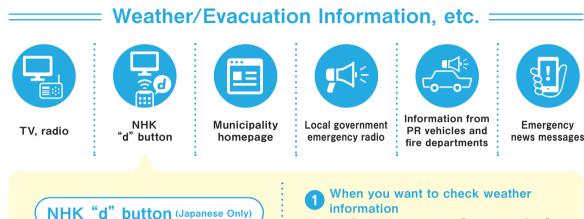




## **Gathering Information**

-How to obtain information during a disaster and an emergency evacuation-

Gather information from municipalities via TV, radio, internet, etc.



Press the "d" (data broadcasting) button of vour remote controller. After the menu of the data broadcasting is displayed, choose the disaster information you want to check, and press OK.



**Fukushima Prefecture official** disaster prevention Twitter account @Fukushima Bosai





news messages

\_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_

Choose "Weather information" and press "OK", or the red button of the controller.

#### When you want to check "Evacuation/ Evacuation Shelter" information

Choose 「新型ウイルス(福島)・防災・生活情報」(Novel Virus (Fukushima)/Disaster Prevention/Living Information) and press "OK". The menu list of the pre-set municipality will be displayed. If the municipality has distributed information regarding 「避難·避難所」(Evacuation/Evacuation Shelter), then 「避難情報」(Evacuation Information), and 「開設避難所」 (Opened Evacuation Shelter) will be displayed in red. Choose the information you want to check, and press "OK". ■ 全国のニュース (■ 気象領 ■地震・津波・火山

Weather warnings/advisories by JMA (English)

NHK Evacuation information in each area (Japanese)

Disaster message board (English/Japanese



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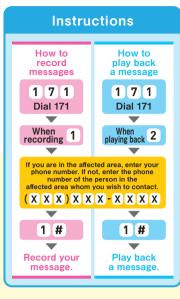
#### Create a "My Evacuation Plan Sheet" on the computer/smartphone.

You can make a "My Evacuation Plan Sheet" on the computer/smartphone. For details, search for ふくしまマイ避難  $\dot{\nu} - F$ (Fukushima My Evacuation Plan Sheet) (Japanese only).



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ふくしまマイ避難シート (Fukushima My Evacuation Plan Sheet)



**Disaster Message Boards** (Mobile phones/smartphones)

**Evacuation shelter** 

bulletin boards

= After you have evacuated

Disaster Emergency

Message Dial 171

**Disaster Emergency Message Dial 171** 

disaster-stricken area increases, making it difficult to get through.

Disaster Emergency Message Dial 171 is a voice message service

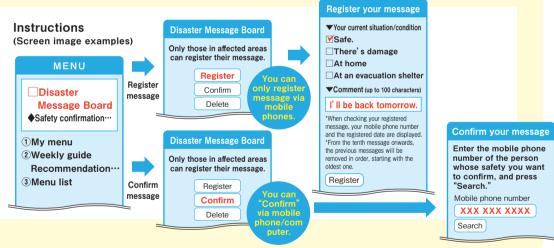
where people in the affected areas record messages confirming

their safety. The message can then be played back by others

anywhere in Japan (Explanation is in Japanese).

When a disaster occurs, the communication traffic to the

By using mobile internet, people in the affected areas can leave a text message, and everyone can confirm the safety of each other using their mobile phone numbers. For smartphone users, please check your carrier's website.



Disaster Message

Boards

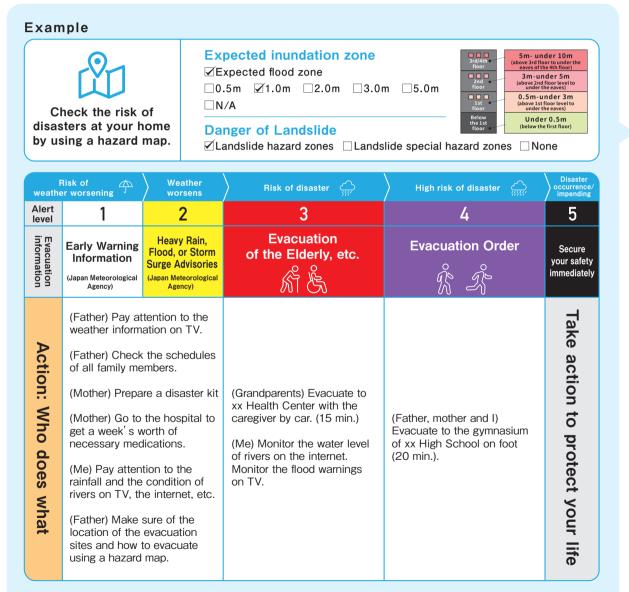




## **My Evacuation Plan Sheet**

-Consider the best evacuation plan for you-

My Evacuation Plan Sheet is an evacuation plan that should be shared with family members. You need to make plans regarding how/when/where to evacuate based on the possible risk of flood, both for your home and your workplace. To evacuate safely from the danger of flood, create these plans together with your family members and colleagues.



When you make an evacuation plan, you should write how to evacuate, who will evacuate, where to evacuate and with who.

disas	heck the risk sters at your h sing a hazard	of Dame	andslide       handslide         andslide       hazard zones	m 5.0m	nder 10m loor to under the the dth loor's nder 5m d (floor level to the eaves) under 3m itfloor level to the saves) er 0.5m he first floor)
	Risk of	Weather worsens	Risk of disaster	High risk of disaster	Disaster occurrence/ impending
Alert level	1	2	3	4	5
Evacuation information	Early Warning Information (Japan Meteorological Agency)	Heavy Rain, Flood, or Storm Surge Advisories (Japan Meteorological Agency)	Evacuation of the Elderly, etc.	Evacuation Order	Secure your safety immediately
Action:					Take action

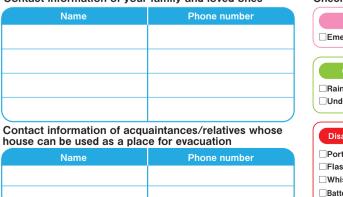
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Contact information of your family and loved ones

Who

does

what



#### Check sheet for items you need to take

Food, etc.	Infectious disease protection		
	Thermometer Wet tissues		
Clothes, etc.	Daily necessities Glasses/Co	ontact lenses	
Raincoat Blankets			
Indergarments	□Towels □Feminine hygiene products □Toothbrush and Mouthwash		
	Portable toilet Plastic bags		
Disaster kit items			
Portable radio			
lashlight Batteries	Medical supplies Valua	ables	
Vhistle Headlamp		k books,	
Battery charger and batteries	First aid kit	al seal, cards	

## Tips

## "Insurance and Mutual Aid (Kyosai)"

#### Get insurance for when you have to rebuild your life

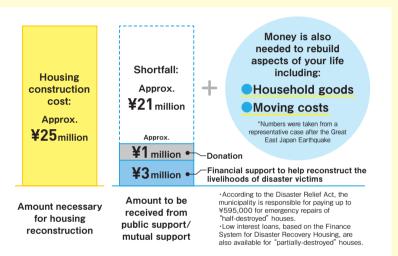
In cases where a large-scale flood disaster causes extensive damage to your home, it will be costly to repair and rebuild. Public support funds alone will not suffice for housing/living reconstruction.

It is important to be prepared for disasters, such as having insurance and mutual aid, in case you have to rebuild your home/life. Even if you have already have it, you should review your coverage to make sure whether it is adequate.

#### This is how much it costs to rebuild your house after it is completely destroyed.

The reconstruction costs of a completely destroyed house by the Great East Japan Earthquake amounted to be about ¥25 million on average, while the costs covered by public funds amounted to only about ¥4 million, even with goodwill donations included.





### Make sure your home is properly covered for a disaster.

By enrolling in insurance/mutual aid, damage from floods/high tides/landslides caused by typhoons/storms, or damage from earthquakes/tsunamis/volcanic eruptions to your house and household goods will be compensated. There are different types of insurance/mutual aid for disasters, such as those added and attached to your fire insurance (or Kyosai) for disaster-related damage, or included it in basic compensation. Be aware of the possible disaster risk to your house and make sure you are properly covered by your insurance. Furthermore, regardless of the extent of damage to the building, household goods may also be considerably damaged, and therefore need to be repurchased. Homeowners are recommended to prepare both for building compensation and for household property compensation.



Source: The Cabinet Office "Protect Our Home from Flood Disaster and Earthquake-Recommendations for having insurance or mutual aid"