HOW TSUNAMI WARNINGS WORK

What kinds of tsunami warnings can be used and how much time you'll have depends on the source, size and location of the tsunami. Here's how it works;

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For regional or distant source tsunami New Zealand uses a network of sensors around the pacific called the Pacific Tsunami Warning System (PTWS) to watch for tsunami activity.

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When tsunami activity is detected, the PTWS sends an alert to the Ministry of Civil Defence & Emergency Management (MCDEM) and others.

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Scientists and MCDEM work together to check for potential danger to New Zealand.

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Local councils, Civil Defence, Police, the media and others pick up MCDEM's official warning and pass it on. Depending on the tsunami, warnings could include TV, radio, social media, apps, text alerts, or sirens. Informal or unofficial warnings from friends, family, communities or international media may even start before the official warning is sent.

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MCDEM also works with TV and radio to get the warning out as soon as possible. 1

If a tsunami warning is needed, MCDEM sends one through email to organisations that are responsible for responding to tsunami warnings, the MCDEM website and social media.

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Natural warning signs may be present along the coast.

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Advice will be issued by MCDEM, local Civil Defence Emergency Management and Emergency Services.

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Stay informed, follow instructions, use your emergency plan.

DID YOU KNOW



Local source tsunami can arrive before official warnings can go out, So you need to know what natural and informal warnings to look for.



