

# What if a storm hits?

→ Actions and decisions in the event of a storm

→ Key Points

Exercise caution, Act promptly

→ Prepare for typhoons

→ Prepare for torrential rains

→ Watch out for landslides

→ If an evacuation order is issued

## Actions and decisions in the event of a storm

### Before the storm

#### Actions and decisions

##### Prepare the exterior of your home

- Close windows and shutters
- Secure or remove objects that might fall or blow away
- Clean areas that drain poorly

##### Prepare for emergency

- Prepare flashlights
- Secure food and water
- Check emergency kit
- If necessary, move furniture and check dangerous goods



### During the storm

#### Actions and decisions

##### Check storm damage information

Seek the latest information from TV or radio. Be sure to check the Ritsumeikan University Campus Terminal.

##### Evacuate swiftly

If an evacuation order has been issued or you feel in danger, contact your neighbors and evacuate quickly. Confirm your evacuation methods and shelter locations in advance.

##### Avoid dangerous places

Avoid places where storm surges, floods or landslides may occur.



### Emergency measures

#### Actions and decisions

##### Post-storm disinfection

To prevent infectious diseases after a flood, sanitize the portions of your house that flooded and any furniture that got wet.

##### Confirm danger

- Make sure no flammable liquids, such as kerosene, have spilled.
- If you find any downed electrical wires, call the power company, city hall fire department or police department.

## Exercise caution, Act promptly

### Prepare for typhoons

Typhoons are predictable natural phenomena. Make sure you check the size of the storm and time of landfall.

#### Typhoon intensity

Classification	Classification Maximum wind speed (m/s)
Typhoon	17 – 32 m/s
Strong typhoon	33 – 43 m/s
Very strong typhoon	44 – 53 m/s
Violent typhoon	54 m/s and up

#### Typhoon intensity and anticipated damage \*Wind speed is approximate

10 m/s	Umbrellas may break
15 m/s	Poorly attached signs may be blown off
20 m/s	It is hard to stand upright and walk into the wind
25 m/s	Roof tiles blow away and trees break
30 m/s	Roofs may be blown off and houses and telephone poles may collapse or break
35 m/s	Train cars may be blown over
40 m/s	You will be blown over if you don't bend your body 45°
50 m/s+	Most wooden houses will collapse and trees will be uprooted

### Prepare for torrential rains

Since torrential rains strike limited areas suddenly, they are harder to predict than typhoons. Become familiar with the land near your house and take sufficient measures.

#### Hourly rainfall and its effects

10 – 20 mm	The sound of the rain makes it hard to hear someone talking.
20 - 30 mm	Soaking rain. Ditches, sewer drains and small creeks overflow.
30 - 50 mm	Rain falls like it is being dumped from buckets. Roads flood.
50 - 80 mm	Rain falls like a waterfall. Landslide risk increases. Driving is dangerous.
80 mm+	The rain can cause a major disaster. Exercise extreme caution.

#### JMA weather advisories and warnings (Kyoto District Meteorological Observatory)

Heavy rain advisory	Issued when there is a risk of damage from heavy rain
Heavy rain warning	Issued when there is a risk of severe damage from heavy rain
Flood advisory	Issued when there is a risk of damage from flooding
Flood warning	Issued when there is a risk of severe damage from flooding
Gale advisory	Issued when there is a risk of damage from strong winds. Average wind speed: 12 m/s and up
Storm warning	Issued when there is a risk of severe damage from a storm. Average wind speed: 20 m/s and up

### Watch out for landslides

If there is a cliff with a height of 4 m or more near your house, watch out for the following signs and evacuate immediately if you feel uncertain.

#### Signs of a coming landslide

- Streams of water keep flowing even after the rain stops
- Small rocks and dirt occasionally tumble down the cliff face
- Streams suddenly become murky
- Cracks appear in the ground
- Unusual rumbling sounds

### If an evacuation order is issued

It is important to pay attention to the TV or radio during a typhoon or torrential rainstorm in order to get the latest information. After a certain amount of rainfall, evacuation orders will be issued, and people will be notified by way of media outlets, local government offices, fire stations and police stations. Follow their instructions and evacuate immediately.

## Key Points

- Turn off the main gas valve and circuit breakers before evacuating.
- Avoid evacuating alone if at all possible. Ask your neighbors to go with you.
- Help nearby elderly persons evacuate.
- Confirm the nearest evacuation shelter and choose a meeting place in case you get separated from your family and friends during the evacuation.