



Warning levels and what you should do



Please use the information for each **warning level** to **determine evacuation behavior as soon as possible**. Along with **taking note of the issue of Evacuation Orders from Hidakacho**, **make your own decision to evacuate** even if no orders have been issued. As it is not possible to evacuate when a disaster occurs at warning level 5, **evacuation at warning levels 3 or 4 is important**.

Here are the 5 disaster warning levels and what action should be taken.

Danger level	Warning level	Required evacuation behavior of residents
High Danger level Low	5	Disaster is impending or has occurred Issued by Hidakacho Ensure Safety Urgently At warning level 5 it is already too late to evacuate safely as there is a danger to life. Evacuate before the level 5 Ensure Safety Urgently warning is issued!
	4	Great concern of the possibility of a disaster Issued by Hidakacho Evacuation Order Everyone must evacuate from dangerous places when warning level 4 Evacuation Orders are issued.
	3	Concern of the possibility of a disaster Issued by Hidakacho Evacuation of the Elderly, etc. Evacuate people who require more time to evacuate such as the elderly and people with disabilities from dangerous places at level 3 Evacuation of Elderly, etc.
	2	Worsening weather conditions Announcement from the Japan Meteorological Agency Heavy rain / Flooding / High tide advisories
	1	Concern that weather conditions will worsen Announcement from the Japan Meteorological Agency Early Advisory Information

*If you feel that you are in danger, **evacuate regardless of the warning level**. Warnings may not always be issued in order from 1 upwards.

When a level 5 Ensure Safety Urgently warning is issued Imminent, abnormal and unprecedented danger. **Take measures to protect life immediately!**

Criteria for announcing Special Warnings

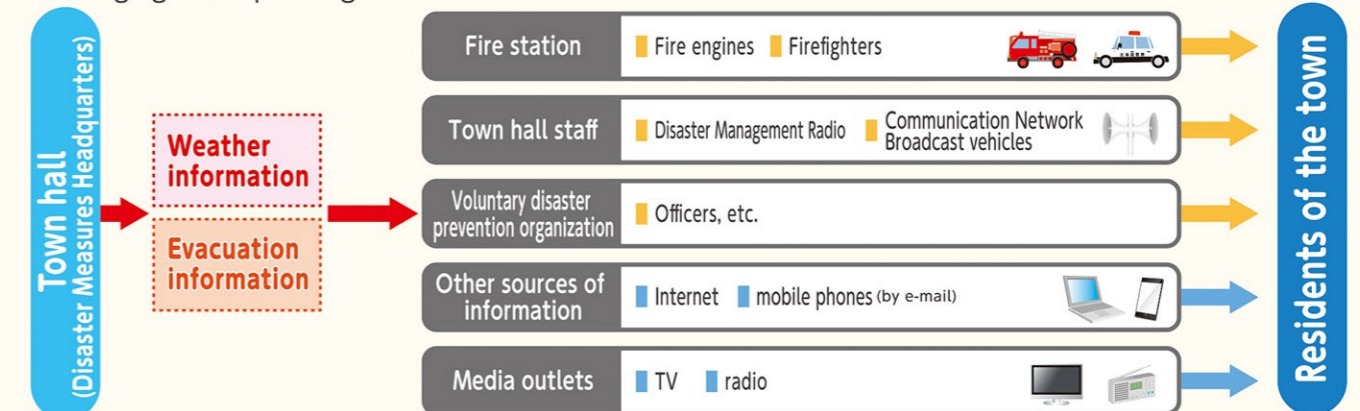
Types of Special Warnings	Criteria for Special Warnings
Special Weather Warnings	Special Storm Warnings When it is expected that strong winds will occur due to the type of typhoon that happens once every few decades or due to an extratropical cyclone of a similar degree to these typhoons.
	Special blizzard warning When it is expected that strong winds will occur with snow due to the type of typhoon that happens once every few decades or due to an extratropical cyclone of a similar degree to these typhoons.
	Special heavy rain warning When it is expected that heavy rain with the amount of rainfall that happens once every few decades will fall due to a typhoon or concentrated torrential rain.
	Special heavy snow warning When it is expected that heavy snow with the amount of snowfall that happens once every few decades will fall.

Decision to issue is made based on the actual situation or predictions as well as on objective indications from calculations compared to past disasters such as amount of rainfall, amount of snowfall, central pressure of typhoon or maximum wind speed. Parameters for these once-every-few-decades phenomena can be found on the JMA website.

How disaster information is communicated

Disaster information communication routes

Weather information (heavy rain/flood advisories/warnings, information about typhoons, earthquakes or tsunamis) and evacuation information are communicated to the people of the town as shown in the following figure, depending on the situation.



When there is concern that damage from a disaster may become more widespread and there is imminent danger to residents, the Town Disaster Measures Headquarters will issue the following evacuation information depending on the situation. Act quickly once evacuation information is issued.

Evacuation of the Elderly, etc.

Warning level 3 Evacuation of the Elderly, etc.
Start evacuating those who require more time to evacuate such as the elderly and people with disabilities; other people should postpone usual behavior such as going out, prepare to evacuate and evacuate voluntarily. Residents of areas such as riverbanks and low-lying ground who require early evacuation should voluntarily evacuate at this time.

Evacuation Order

Warning level 4 Evacuation Order
Evacuation Orders are issued when there is concern of disasters such as flooding and those who have not already evacuated must evacuate immediately. Those who do not have enough time to evacuate must act to preserve life. When an Evacuation Order is issued, everyone in the applicable area should evacuate from dangerous places. When evacuating, you should go to a designated emergency evacuation area or the house of relatives or friends in a safe area: moving evacuation (horizontal evacuation), but if you don't have enough time or you don't expect that higher floors will be inundated by floods or high tide, it is also possible to move to a higher floor (vertical evacuation) or stay on a high floor and ensure safety indoors. Evacuate to your nearest evacuation shelter or a safe place as soon as possible.
**Evacuation Advisories used to be issued in order to encourage early evacuation to move to a safe place but they were abolished and amalgamated with Evacuation Orders with the revision of the Basic Act on Disaster Management.*

Ensure Safety Urgently

Warning level 5 Ensure Safety Urgently
These warnings are issued urgently if you did not manage to evacuate at the stage of Evacuation Order or Evacuation of the Elderly, etc., and the disaster is imminent, making it difficult to evacuate safely. It is difficult to evacuate to a designated emergency evacuation area as the disaster has already occurred and danger is imminent. You must evacuate to the safest available place such as higher floors, a sturdy building nearby and stay away from building entrances and windows.

Regardless of these criteria, there are cases in which Evacuation Orders are issued judging the weather and the water level information as a whole so pay sufficient attention to information from the town hall, etc.