



Heavy Rain
Flood / Typhoons



Landslides



Earthquakes



Oshu City

Hazard Map



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Introduction

In recent years, extreme weather has caused sediment-related disasters and flood damage across Japan. Oshu City has also experienced major disasters, including the Kathleen and Ione Typhoons in 1947 and 1948, the Iwate-Miyagi Inland Earthquake in 2008, and the Great East Japan Earthquake in 2011, which caused serious damage. This "Oshu City Hazard Map" brings together information on disaster risks in Oshu City and how to prepare for disasters in one booklet. Natural disasters can happen anytime and anywhere. It is important to be aware that "you should protect your own life" and to think, in your everyday life, about "what you can do on your own," "what your family can do together," and "what your community can do" to prepare for disasters. Use this hazard map to take appropriate actions to protect your life.

Three Key Forms of "Support" for Community Disaster Preparedness

To minimize damage caused by disasters, coordination among "self-help," "mutual help," and "public support" is essential. In particular, the ideas of "self-help" (protecting your own life) and "mutual help" (protecting your community together) are especially important.

Protecting your own life

Self-Help

: "life," "family," and "property"

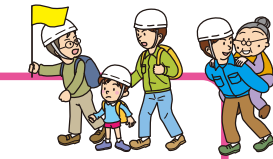


Coordination

Protecting your community together

Mutual Help

: "neighbors," "older people," and "community disaster prevention organizations"



Emergency response activities conducted by the government and disaster-related organizations

Public Support

: "police, fire services, the Self-Defense Forces," "lifelines," and "prefectural and city governments"



How to Use This Hazard Map

① Find your home on the map and check the disaster risks around it.

This hazard map shows the expected flood depth and sediment-related hazards. Check what types of flood and sediment-related disaster risks exist in the area where you live. However, depending on rainfall conditions and the condition of the land, floods and sediment-related disasters may occur even outside the zones shown on the map. Please be cautious.

② Check evacuation shelters.

Check the list of evacuation shelters on pages 11 and 12 to find where the designated sites for your area are located. Then, check on the map where those evacuation shelters are located.

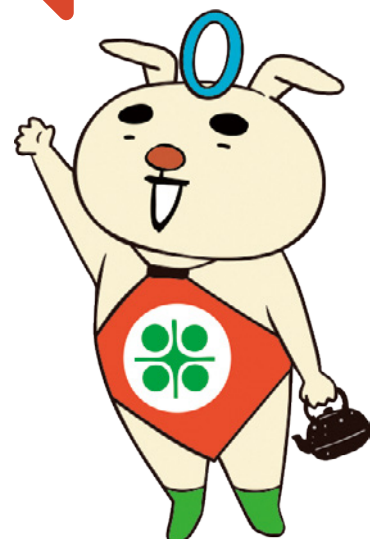
③ Think about and plan your evacuation route.

Using the hazard map, check on the map which routes you should take from your home to the evacuation shelter. After checking the route on the map, try walking to the evacuation shelter. Choose a safe and easy-to-walk route, check the route to the evacuation shelter, and see how long it takes. During an actual evacuation, it may take more than twice as long as usual because evacuation may occur at night, in heavy rain, or with many people moving together.

④ Share information with your family and neighbors.

Review the hazard map together with your family. If you need to evacuate due to an earthquake, typhoon, or heavy rain, inform nearby residents, relatives, or friends that you are evacuating and where you are going, so they know which facility you are evacuating to. The Disaster Emergency Message Dial (171) can also be used to check the safety of family and friends.

I'm checking the disaster risks in Oshu City using the hazard map, too!



! Evacuation Information by Alert Levels

Alert Levels Alert Levels are divided into five stages to inform residents of the actions they should take to prepare for floods and sediment-related disasters. These levels are issued by the city together with evacuation information.

* Disaster prevention weather information is scheduled to change starting in late May 2026. For more details, see page 9.

Evacuation Information, etc. (Alert Levels)				River Water Levels and rainfall Information (Alert Level-Equivalent Information)	
Alert Level	Situation	Actions Residents Should Take	Evacuation Information, etc.	Disaster Prevention Weather Information (Alert Level-Equivalent Information)	
				Flooding information (rivers)	Sediment-related disaster information (rainfall)
5	Disaster occurring or imminent	Life-threatening danger – Ensure your safety immediately! - Alert Level 5 indicates a life-threatening situation in which it is no longer safe to evacuate. - Do not wait for the issuance of Alert Level 5 emergency safety action! - However, Alert Level 5 is issued only when a municipality is able to recognize that a disaster has occurred or is imminent, and <u>only to the extent possible</u>. It is not always issued.	Emergency Safety Action	Equivalent to 5 Flood Occurrence Information	Heavy Rain Emergency Warning (Sediment-related disasters)
<Be Sure to Evacuate by Alert Level 4!>					
4	Disaster highly likely	Everyone must evacuate from dangerous areas. An Alert Level 4 evacuation order is issued considering the time needed to evacuate and factors such as nightfall. <u>At this stage, you must evacuate from dangerous areas.</u>	Evacuation Order	Equivalent to 4 Flood Danger Information	Sediment-Related Disaster Warning Information
3	Disaster possible	The elderly and others should evacuate from dangerous areas. "The elderly and others" includes people with disabilities and those who help them evacuate. - In addition, <u>people other than the elderly and others</u> should, as necessary, begin to stop their usual activities, prepare to evacuate, or <u>evacuate voluntarily</u>.	Evacuation for the Elderly, etc.	Equivalent to 3 Flood Alert Information Flood Warning	Heavy Rain Warning
2	Weather conditions worsening	Check your evacuation plan.	Heavy Rain / Flood / Storm Surge Advisory	Equivalent to 2 Flood Advisory Information	—
1	Weather conditions may worsen.	Prepare yourself for disasters	Early Warning Information	Equivalent to 1 —	—

* In addition to river and rainfall information (Alert Level-equivalent information), the mayor makes decisions on issuing evacuation information (Alert Levels) based on a comprehensive assessment, including local land use and past disaster experience. Therefore, the timing and areas covered by Alert Levels and Alert Level-equivalent information do not always match.

"Evacuation" Means "Avoiding" "Danger." Below are four actions to take. Decide in advance how you will act.

● Evacuate to a designated evacuation shelter.

* Bring your own mask, hand sanitizer, thermometer, slippers, etc.



● Evacuate to a safe hotel or inn.

* Normal accommodation fees apply. Please make a reservation and confirm in advance.
* Check the hazard map to make sure the location is safe.



● Evacuate to a safe home of relatives or friends.

Talk in advance with them about evacuating in case of a disaster.
* Check the hazard map to make sure the location is safe.



● Stay indoors and stay safe.

If the "three conditions" in (1) to (3) are met, it may be possible to stay at home and remain safe even if there is a risk of flooding.

* In zones at risk of sediment-related disasters, evacuation to another location is the basic rule.

- ① The home is not located in a building-collapse flood hazard zone.
- ② The living space is higher than the expected flood depth.
- ③ You can stay until the water recedes and you have enough supplies, such as water and food.



Move to a room as far away from the cliff as possible.



Prepare at least three days' worth of water, food, and other supplies for a long evacuation.

i Disaster Prevention Weather Information

Advisory / Warning / Emergency Warning

Type	When Issued
Heavy Rain Emergency Warning	When extremely heavy rain is expected once in several decades due to typhoons or torrential rain. When the risk of a serious disaster is extremely high.
Storm Emergency Warning	When violent winds from a typhoon or extratropical cyclone, expected only once every several decades, are forecast.
Record-breaking Short-term Heavy Rain Information	When extremely heavy rain of 100 mm per hour is observed.
Sediment-Related Disaster Warning Information	When the risk of sediment-related disasters increases based on rainfall and past disaster records.
Heavy Rain Warning	When heavy rain poses a risk of a serious disaster.
Flooding Warning	When rising river levels pose a risk of a serious disaster.
Storm Warning	When a storm poses a risk of a serious disaster.
Heavy Rain Advisory	When heavy rain poses a risk of a disaster.
Flooding Advisory	When rising river levels pose a risk of a disaster.
Strong Wind Advisory	When strong winds pose a risk of a disaster.
Tornado Advisory Information	When weather conditions become favorable for violent gusts, such as tornadoes or downbursts, to occur under cumulonimbus clouds.



Relationship Between Rainfall Intensity and Advisories / Warnings (Guideline)

Issuance criteria	Record-breaking Short-term Heavy Rain Information				
	Sediment-Related Disaster Warning Information				
	Heavy Rain Advisory		Heavy Rain Warning	Heavy Rain Emergency Warning	
Forecast terms	Moderately heavy rain	Heavy rain	Very heavy rain	Extremely heavy rain	Torrential rain
Hourly rainfall (mm)	10 to less than 20 mm per hour	20 to less than 30 mm per hour	30 to less than 50 mm per hour	50 to less than 80 mm per hour	80 mm or more per hour
Rainfall intensity Impact on people	■ Steady, heavy rain ■ Puddles form across the ground.	■ Pouring rain ■ People get wet even with an umbrella.	■ Rain pours down like buckets of water. ■ Roads turn into rivers.	■ Rain pours down like a waterfall. ■ Umbrellas become completely useless.	■ A suffocating sense of pressure is felt.
Indoor (assuming a wooden house)	Conversation is difficult to hear over the sound of the rain. About half of sleeping people notice the rain.				
Outdoor conditions	Puddles form across the ground.		Roads turn into rivers.	Splashing water whitens the surroundings and reduces visibility.	
When driving			Visibility is poor even at the highest wiper speed. At high speeds, a layer of water forms between the tires and the road, reducing braking effectiveness.	Driving is dangerous.	

Wind Strength and Characteristics

Wind Strength and Characteristics			
(Average wind speed: m/s)			
Moderately Strong Wind	Strong Wind	Very Strong Wind	Violent Wind
10 m/s or more to less than 15 m/s	15 m/s or more to less than 20 m/s	20 m/s or more to less than 30 m/s	30 m/s or more
- It becomes difficult to walk against the wind. - It is difficult to use an umbrella.	- It is impossible to walk against the wind. - Some people may fall over.	- People may fall unless they brace themselves. - Windows may be broken by objects blown by the wind.	- It is impossible to stand. Outdoor activities are dangerous. - Trees begin to be uprooted.

KIKIKURU (Risk Distribution Map)

This information helps you understand where the risk of sediment-related disasters, inundation, and flood is increasing, and is provided to help protect lives.

Landslide KIKIKURU

Risk distribution map for Heavy Rain Warning (Sediment-related disasters)

<https://www.jma.go.jp/bosai/risk/#elements:land/>

Inundation KIKIKURU

Risk distribution map for Heavy Rain Warning (Inundation)

<https://www.jma.go.jp/bosai/risk/#elements:inund/>

Flood KIKIKURU

Risk distribution map for Flood Warning

<https://www.jma.go.jp/bosai/risk/#elements:flood/>

Purple: Dangerous near cliffs and streams

High Risk level

- Disaster imminent [Equivalent to Alert Level 5]
- Danger [Equivalent to Alert Level 4]
- Caution [Equivalent to Alert Level 3]
- Advisory [Equivalent to Alert Level 2]
- Monitor future information

Purple: Dangerous in low-lying areas

High Risk level

- Disaster imminent [Equivalent to Alert Level 5]
- Danger
- Caution
- Advisory
- Monitor future information

Purple: Dangerous along rivers

High Risk level

- Disaster imminent [Equivalent to Alert Level 5]
- Danger [Equivalent to Alert Level 4]
- Caution [Equivalent to Alert Level 3]
- Advisory [Equivalent to Alert Level 2]
- Monitor future information

* Depending on your mobile phone or application, the QR code may not be readable.
(Figures and tables on this page are excerpted and adapted from the Cabinet Office and Japan Meteorological Agency websites.)

Sediment-Related Disaster Warning Information

(Starting in May 2026, the name will change to Sediment-Related Disaster Danger Alert.)

After a heavy rain warning (sediment-related disaster) has been issued, this information is released when conditions reach a stage where life-threatening sediment disasters could occur at any time. It identifies the affected municipalities and calls for heightened vigilance, supporting mayors in deciding whether to issue evacuation orders and helping residents decide to evacuate voluntarily. This information is jointly issued by prefectural governments and the Japan Meteorological Agency.

This corresponds to Alert Level 4, which requires evacuation from dangerous areas. Within municipalities where sediment-related disaster warning information has been issued, detailed areas with increasing risk can be checked using **Landslide KIKIKURU (risk distribution map for heavy rain warning (sediment-related disasters))**.

For people living in sediment-related disaster hazard zones, where there is a recognized risk that sediment-related disasters could threaten lives, it is extremely important to begin evacuating immediately, at the latest when "danger" (purple) appears in the relevant area.

Pay close attention to your surroundings and rainfall conditions, and if you feel in danger, evacuate voluntarily without hesitation.

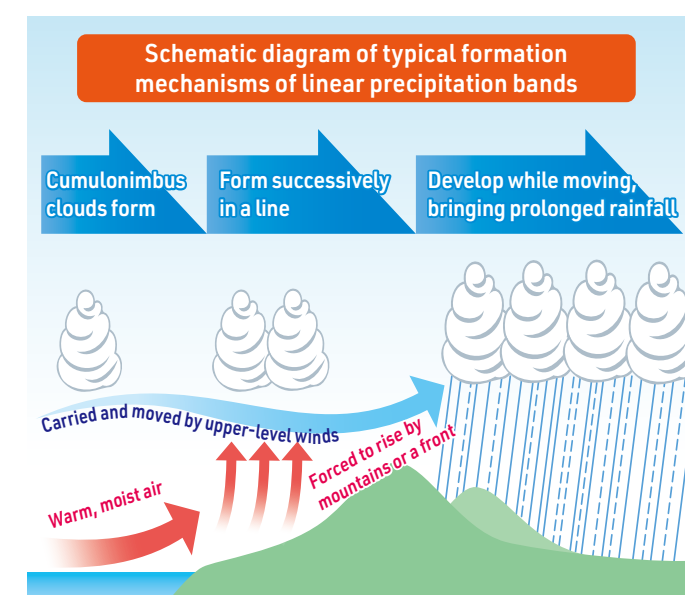
Flooding and Sediment-Related Disasters Caused by Linear Precipitation Bands

In recent years, the term "linear precipitation bands" has been widely used to describe a cause of flooding and sediment-related disasters. They often cause major disasters, and their occurrence is now reported in weather forecasts.

What are linear precipitation bands?

Linear precipitation bands are phenomena in which cumulonimbus clouds form one after another over the same area and line up in a band. They create rain areas with heavy precipitation that stretch linearly for about 50–300 km in length and 20–50 km in width, as the bands repeatedly pass over or remain stationary over nearly the same area for several hours. It is estimated that linear precipitation bands occurred in about two-thirds of the heavy rainfall events that have occurred in Japan.

Japan Meteorological Agency website
"Various information on linear precipitation bands"



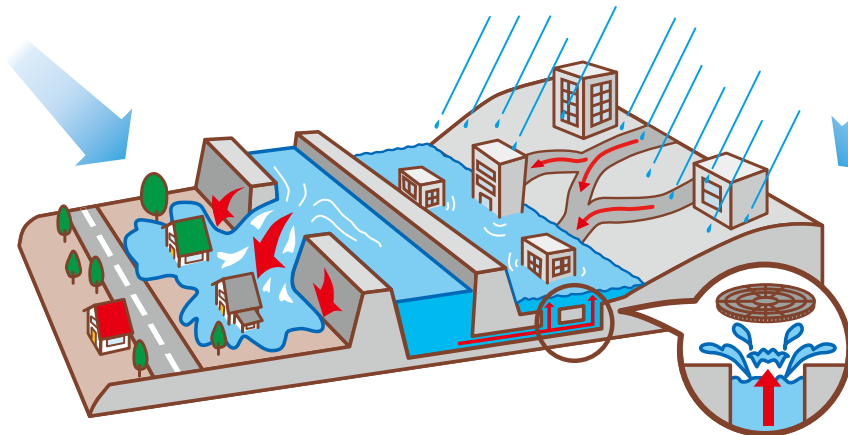


Flood and Inundation Hazards

Types of Flooding

River flooding

River water levels rise, causing water to overflow or break through levees and spill out into surrounding areas.



Surface water flooding

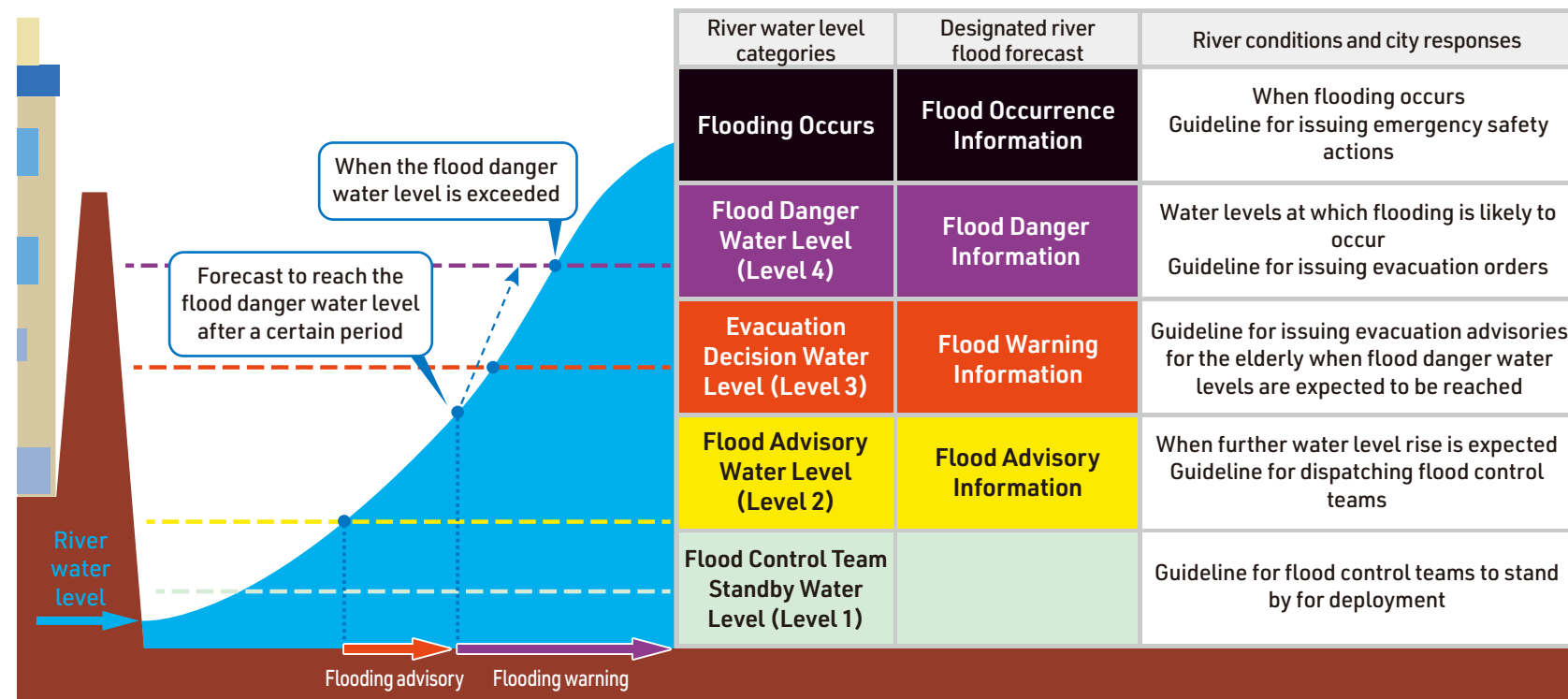
Flooding occurs when rainfall exceeds the drainage capacity of sewers, small rivers, and other drainage systems. Flooding can also occur when rising river water levels prevent rainwater from being discharged from sewers, small rivers, and other drainage systems into the river.

Source: Adapted from the Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism website (<https://www.mlit.go.jp/river/bousai/olympic/>)

River Flood Forecasts

* This applies to the Kitakami River (downstream of Shijushida Dam), the Shizukuishi River, and the Nakatsu River.

When river water levels rise and there is a risk of flooding, the Japan Meteorological Agency and the Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism jointly issue river flood forecasts and provide information through the media and other channels. River flood forecasts are issued with the river name, such as “Kitakami River Upstream Flood Advisory Information” or “Kitakami River Upstream Flood Warning Information.”



Reference: Japan Meteorological Agency <https://www.jma.go.jp/jma/kishou/known/bosai/flood.html>

Flooding Assumptions Used in This Hazard Map

River name	Assumed rainfall (maximum scenario)	Prepared by	River name	Assumed rainfall (maximum scenario)	Prepared by
Kitakami River	Downstream of the Meiji Bridge: Total rainfall over two days in the river basin 264 mm Downstream of the Meiji Bridge: Total rainfall over two days in the river basin 313 mm	the Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism	Kurosawa River	Total rainfall over two days in the river basin 828 mm	Iwate Prefecture
Isawa River	Total rainfall over two days in the upstream basin 675 mm	Iwate Prefecture	Nagasawa River	Total rainfall over two days in the river basin 942 mm	
Hitokabe River	Total rainfall over two days in the river basin 347 mm		Takinosawa River	Total rainfall over two days in the river basin 962 mm	
Koromo River	Total rainfall over two days in the river basin 466 mm		Kitazawa River		
Minamimata River	Total rainfall over two days in the river basin 901 mm		Dengawasawa River		
Iwazeki River	Total rainfall over two days in the river basin 932 mm		Misawa River		
Otashiro River	Total rainfall over two days in the river basin 918 mm		Shiratori River		
Odashiro River	Total rainfall over two days in the river basin 962 mm		Tenjin River		
Ide River	Total rainfall over two days in the river basin 834 mm		Yamauchi River		
Hirose River	Total rainfall over two days in the river basin 777 mm		Tokusawa River		
Kuchinai River	Total rainfall over two days in the river basin 948 mm		Araya River		
		Taya River			

- The flooding assumptions shown are based on different conditions for each river. Where multiple flooding assumptions overlap, the greatest flood depth is shown.
- Flooding from small rivers and surface water flooding are not considered. As a result, flood depths may differ in areas not designated as flooding hazard zones.

Flooding Rank Guideline

- The hazard information used in this “Oshu City Hazard Map” shows the zones that may be flooded and the expected flood depth if heavy rainfall causes flooding in 23 rivers related to Oshu City. Please refer to the “Flooding rank guideline” below for a guide to flooding.

- Depending on how the rain falls, actual flood depths may differ from the flooding assumptions, and flooding may occur outside the flood zones shown on the map.
- Even if rivers do not overflow, low-lying areas may still experience flooding damage (such as flooding above or below floor level). Please exercise caution.

Zone of 5 m or more		≥ 5 m (Above 2F roof)	
Zone of 3 to less than 5 m	Flooding up to the eaves of the 2nd floor	3-5 m (Up to 2F roof)	
Zone of 0.5 to less than 3 m	Flooding that covers the entire 1st floor	1-3 m (Below 2F floor)	
Zone less than 0.5 m	Flooding up to an adult's knees	0.5-1 m (Above floor) < 0.5 m (Below floor)	

● Flood rank guideline ●

Key Points for Evacuation, Dangerous Areas

1. Check information

- Check the situation, such as rain or typhoons, on TV, radio, or the internet, and get the latest weather information and evacuation orders.

2. Follow instructions from disaster prevention managers

- When evacuating, follow instructions from the police, fire department, and local disaster prevention managers. Acting on your own is very dangerous.

3. Wear comfortable clothes and evacuate in groups

- When evacuating, wear comfortable clothes and try to stay with at least one other person.

4. How to walk during evacuation

- When evacuating, walk in areas that are not flooded as much as possible. If you feel danger while evacuating, move to the second floor or higher of your home, or evacuate to a nearby building.
- When the area is flooded, there is a risk of falling into sewer manholes or gutters, which is dangerous. Please be careful.

5. Calling out to neighbors

- Older people, children, and people who are sick need to evacuate early. Help older people, children, and people who are sick in your neighborhood to evacuate. It is helpful to organize information sharing and evacuation sites in advance.

6. Evacuating by car is dangerous.

- If a car is flooded, it may stop running, and water pressure may prevent the doors from opening, which is very dangerous. Avoid evacuating by car except in special circumstances.

7. Bridges and areas near rivers are dangerous.

- When rivers rise, the current becomes fast, and bridges may be damaged or washed away. This is extremely dangerous, so stay away from rivers and bridges.

8. Do not go to check rivers or irrigation canals.

- During heavy rain, people may be swept away and injured when they go to check rivers or irrigation canals. Never go to check rivers or irrigation canals during heavy rain.

Source: Adapted from the Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism website.

Zone Requiring Early Evacuation

A zone where river flooding may cause houses to collapse or flood the second floor or higher—making it difficult to ensure safety through vertical evacuation (evacuating to upper floors within a building)—is designated as “Zone requiring early evacuation.”

Zone With Flood Depths of 3 m or More
This is equivalent to the height of the second-floor level of a typical house or higher. Remaining indoors may put your life at risk.

Building-Collapse Flood Hazard Zone
This zone may be affected by flood flows or riverbank erosion strong enough to wash away a typical wooden house during heavy rain.

When evacuation information is issued...
Using the issuance of Alert Level 3 Evacuation for the Elderly as a guideline,
① First, evacuate outside the flooding hazard zone.
② If the above is difficult, evacuate to the third floor or higher of a designated evacuation shelter or other buildings located outside zones requiring early evacuation.

Be Careful in This Case!
If it is dangerous to go outside, such as when flooding has already begun around you, evacuate immediately to the second floor of your home or to a nearby sturdy building to ensure your safety.

! Reservoir Flooding Information

Precautions during reservoir flooding

- When hourly rainfall reaches 20 mm or more, the risk of disasters increases.
- If prolonged rainfall continues, the ground becomes unstable, increasing the risk of disasters.
- After the water stored in a reservoir flows out, the water level will gradually go down. However, remain evacuated until the water in nearby streams and rivers has completely receded.
- If evacuation is possible, evacuate promptly while referring to the hazard map and avoiding flooding hazard zones.
- During heavy rain, pay attention to weather and evacuation information from television, radio, disaster warning broadcasts, and other sources, and make efforts to evacuate at an early stage.
- If a strong earthquake occurs, or if heavy rain makes it difficult to go outside, evacuate to as high a place as possible, such as the second floor of your home.

Reservoir Hazard Map

- The Reservoir Hazard Map illustrates the zones expected to be flooded if a reservoir breaks, and provides information necessary for everyone to evacuate safely.
- You can check the flood zones of reservoirs in the city using the QR code below.



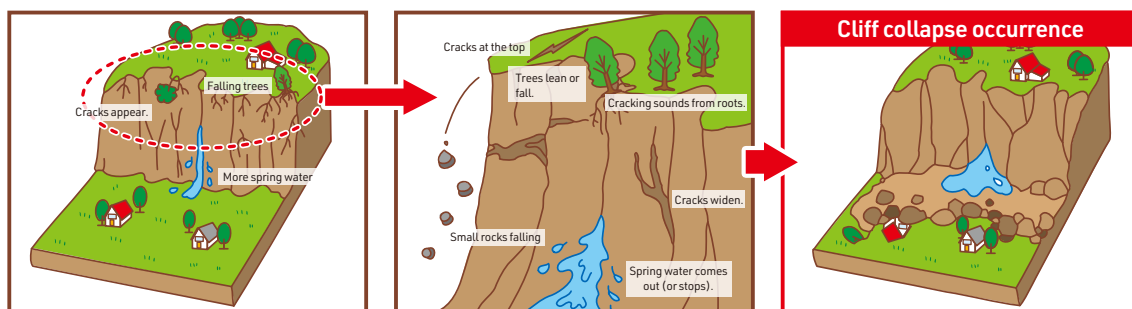


Sediment-Related Disasters

Types of Sediment-Related Disasters

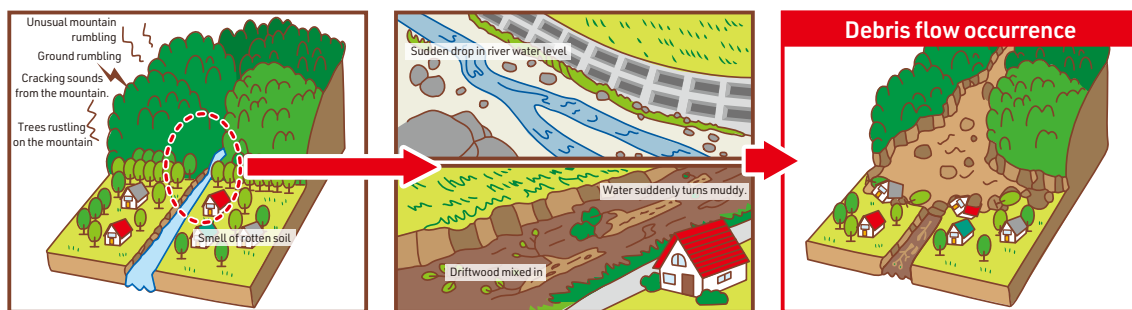
Cliff collapse (steep slope failure)

A phenomenon in which the resistance of the soil weakens due to rain or other factors, causing slopes to collapse suddenly. Once it strikes homes, many people are unable to escape in time, and the fatality rate is high.



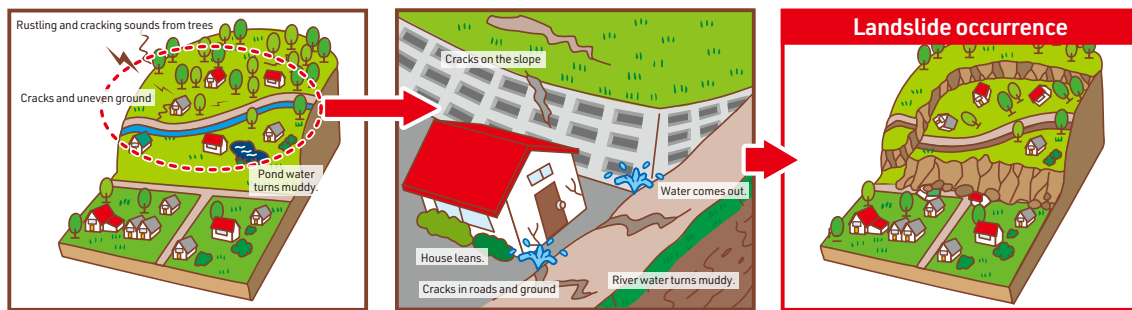
Debris flow

A phenomenon in which some of the soil, sand, and rocks forming mountain slopes and stream beds mix with water due to rain or other factors and are rapidly carried downstream. At speeds of 20 to 40 km/h, it can destroy homes and other structures in a moment.



Landslide

A phenomenon in which a mass of soil on a slope slowly moves downslope along a slip surface due to the influence of groundwater and other factors. Because landslides generally affect wide areas and involve large volumes of moving soil, they have a high potential to cause severe damage.



* The above are common warning signs. They do not occur in all cases. If you notice anything unusual and feel even a slight danger to your safety, evacuate.

Source: Adapted from the Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism website.

Sediment-Related Disaster Hazard Zone

Based on the Sediment Disaster Prevention Act, prefectural governments conduct surveys and designate zones at risk of sediment-related disasters as shown below.

Sediment-Related Disaster Special Hazard Zone (Red Zone)

A zone where buildings may be damaged and there is a risk of serious harm to the lives or bodies of residents and others.

Sediment-Related Disaster Hazard Zone (Yellow Zone)

A zone where there is a risk of harm to the lives or bodies of residents and others.

Source: Adapted from the Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism website.

Key Points for Evacuation

In principle, evacuate outside the designated zone.

- Evacuate to designated evacuation shelters indicated by evacuation information, or to other safe places outside sediment-related disaster hazard zones.

Horizontal Evacuation



- If your home is located above a cliff, there is a risk of collapse, so evacuate quickly to an area outside the zone.

If evacuating outside the zone is difficult,

- Take shelter on the second floor or higher of a nearby sturdy building.

- Move to a safer place inside your home, such as a second-floor room away from the cliff.



Vertical Evacuation



Earthquake Preparedness

What to Do During an Earthquake

If you feel earthquake shaking or see or hear an earthquake early warning, stay calm and first secure your own safety. Then, calmly try to get accurate information using various sources, such as television, radio, and smartphone.

At home (indoors)

- To protect yourself from moving furniture and falling objects, protect your head, stay away from large furniture, and hide under a sturdy desk.
- Do not rush outside.
- If you are using fire for cooking or heating, turn it off only if you can do so safely at your location. If you are away from the source, do not try to return to turn it off.



In a facility where many people gather (e.g., large stores)

- Stay calm and follow the instructions of facility staff or employees.
- If there are no instructions from staff, protect your head and take a safe position where you are to prepare for the shaking.
- Move away from under hanging lights and other suspended objects.
- Do not rush to exits or stairs.



In an elevator

- Stop the elevator at the nearest floor and exit immediately.



Outdoors

- Watch out for collapsing block walls and falling vending machines, and stay away from them.
- Watch out for falling objects such as building walls, signs, and broken glass, and move away from buildings.



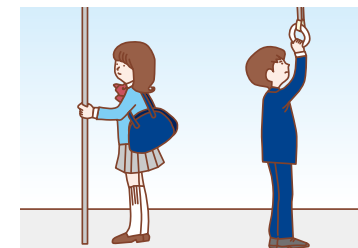
Near mountains or cliffs

- Watch out for falling rocks and slope collapses, and move away from the area as much as possible.



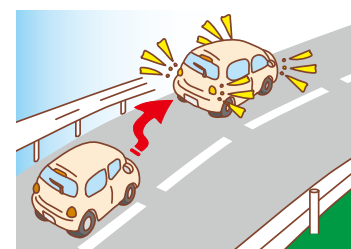
On a train or bus

- Hold on firmly to hand straps or handrails.



While driving

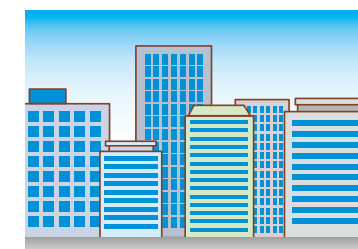
- Slow down gradually without making sudden steering movements or braking.
- Turn on the hazard lights to alert other drivers and stop on the left side of the road.



During an earthquake in a large city

First, secure your own safety. As a basic rule, do not start moving unnecessarily! Consider staying in a safe place.

- On roads, many dangers are expected, such as objects falling from above during aftershocks or fires breaking out along the way. Therefore, do not move unnecessarily from a safe place.
- In heavily crowded areas such as around train stations, there is a high risk of mass falls, where people may fall over one after another. Stay away from areas around train stations.
- For about three days after the disaster occurs, confusion will continue due to fires and the priority given to rescue and emergency response activities. First, consider staying in a safe place to protect yourself.



Source: Adapted from the Prime Minister's Office website.

Active faults

In Oshu City, it is believed that there are numerous active faults, including those that have already been identified. Among them is the fault zone known as the Kitakami Lowland Western Marginal Fault Zone (Dedana Faults), which is believed to extend for about 24 kilometers from the Iwasaki area of Kitakami City to near the Isawa area of Oshu City. Details of the survey and related information are available on Iwate Prefecture website.

the Kitakami Lowland Western Marginal Fault Zone (Dedana Faults) ▶

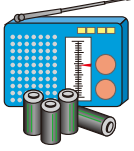
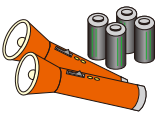


Emergency Kit and Emergency Supplies

When a disaster occurs, utilities such as electricity, water, and gas may not be available, even if you do not need to evacuate, as well as when you do need to evacuate.
To be prepared for emergencies, talk with your family and prepare emergency kits and emergency supplies in advance.

Emergency Kit (Example)

✓ Check to make sure you are prepared.

Portable radio  ☐ Radio ☐ Batteries (bring extra)	First aid and medicines  ☐ Prescription medicine ☐ Household medicine ☐ Adhesive bandage ☐ Bandage ☐ Disinfectant	Valuables  ☐ Cash ☐ Personal seal ☐ Driver's license ☐ My Number Card (Japanese ID card) ☐ Bank passbook	Flashlight  ☐ Flashlight (one per person, if possible) ☐ Batteries (bring extra)
Emergency food Foods that can be eaten without cooking, and tableware  ☐ Alpha rice (instant rice) ☐ Kanpan (hard biscuits) ☐ Canned food / ready-to-eat pouch food ☐ Bottled water ☐ Can opener / bottle opener ☐ Paper plates / paper cups ☐ Water bottle ☐ Chopsticks / spoon	Other items  ☐ Ground sheet ☐ Clothing (underwear, jacket, etc.) ☐ Wet wipes ☐ Masks ☐ Hand sanitizer ☐ Thermometer	Preparing for children  ☐ Baby formula (including formula for allergies) or liquid baby formula ☐ Disposable baby bottles ☐ Baby food ☐ Children's disposable diapers and baby wipes, etc.	
Preparing for women  ☐ Sanitary products ☐ Period underwear ☐ Personal alarms and whistles, etc.		Preparing for older people  ☐ Adult disposable diapers ☐ Hearing aids ☐ Care workers, etc.	

Emergency Supplies (Example)

✓ Check to make sure you are prepared to survive for several days (at least 3 days) until services are restored after a disaster.

Drinking water  ☐ Bottled drinking water (about 3 liters per person per day) ☐ Stored water in plastic containers	Emergency food  ☐ Rice (instant rice is also convenient) ☐ Canned food / ready-to-eat pouch food ☐ Umeboshi (pickled plums) and seasonings ☐ Dried foods, chocolate, and candy (snacks)
Fuel  ☐ Portable gas stove ☐ Gas canister ☐ Solid fuel	Other items  ☐ Water for daily use (stored in the bathtub / washing machine) ☐ Blanket / sleeping bag / toiletries / dry shampoo ☐ Cookware (pot and kettle) ☐ Bucket / outdoor gear ☐ Portable toilet

New Disaster Prevention Weather Information (Scheduled to begin operation in late May 2026)

Disaster prevention weather information, such as heavy rain, river flooding, and sediment-related disasters, is issued in line with five alert levels that correspond to the actions residents should take as the risk of disaster increases. A new "Danger Alert" has been introduced as information equivalent to Alert Level 4, which indicates that evacuation is required. By adding a level number to the name of each alert, the relationship between the information and the actions residents should take becomes easier to understand.

Systematic Descriptions and Names of New Disaster Prevention Weather Information

	Heavy Rain Flooding in low-lying areas and overflow of rivers other than major rivers	River Flooding Flooding of major rivers, such as Class A rivers	Sediment-Related Disaster Landslides on steep slopes and debris flows	Storm Surge Flooding caused by rising sea levels and high waves	Actions Residents Should Take
5	Level 5 Heavy Rain Emergency Warning	Level 5 Flood Emergency Warning	Level 5 Sediment-Related Disaster Emergency Warning	Level 5 Storm Surge Emergency Warning	Life-threatening danger – Ensure your safety immediately!
----- <Be sure to evacuate dangerous areas by Alert Level 4!> -----					
4	Level 4 Heavy Rain Danger Alert	Level 4 Flood Danger Alert	Level 4 Sediment-Related Disaster Danger Alert	Level 4 Storm Surge Danger Alert	Everyone must evacuate from dangerous areas.
3	Level 3 Heavy Rain Warning	Level 3 Flood Warning	Level 3 Sediment-Related Disaster Warning	Level 3 Storm Surge Warning	People who need more time to evacuate should evacuate early or prepare for evacuation.
2	Level 2 Heavy Rain Advisory	Level 2 Flood Advisory	Level 2 Sediment-Related Disaster Advisory	Level 2 Storm Surge Advisory	Check your evacuation actions (evacuation sites, evacuation routes, and when to evacuate).
1	Early Warning Information				Prepare yourself for disasters

Detailed information and the start date of operations will be announced by the Japan Meteorological Agency and the City as soon as they are decided.

Create a Personal Timeline!

Personal Timeline is a disaster preparedness action plan for each person. Organize evacuation actions you need to take in chronological order. By creating a plan in advance, you can act calmly during a disaster.

① Decide on several evacuation destinations in advance.

1 _____ km
2 _____
3 _____

② Check the routes to your evacuation destinations.

_____ km
Check how long it takes to evacuate.
Evacuation time _____ minutes

Write down specific actions for you and your family (Personal Timeline).

Assumed flood inundation depth	~ m	Hazard zones other than sediment-related disaster zones	Yes / No
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Alert Level	Evacuation information / Weather information	Personal actions / Key preparedness	Personal Timeline (Write down actions for yourself and your family)
1	Early Warning Information (Japan Meteorological Agency)	☐ Check the weather forecast on TV. ☐ Check your emergency kit (water, food, clothing, medicine, etc.).	☐ ☐ ☐
2	Heavy Rain Advisory, etc. (Japan Meteorological Agency)	☐ Check evacuation destinations and routes on the hazard map. ☐ Check upcoming plans with your family. ☐ Charge your mobile phone.	☐ ☐ ☐
3	Evacuation for the Elderly, etc.	The elderly and others should evacuate early. ☐ Avoid non-essential outings. ☐ Prepare and recheck your emergency kit. ☐ Check weather information on TV and other media.	☐ ☐ ☐
4	Evacuation Order	Everyone evacuates from dangerous areas. ☐ Evacuate to shelters or to the homes of relatives or friends. ☐ Confirm that your family has evacuated.	☐ ☐ ☐
Be Sure to Evacuate by Alert Level 4!			
5	Emergency Safety Action	Take the best possible actions to protect your life. If you are unable to evacuate in time ☐ Move from the first floor to the second floor or higher. ☐ Move to a room on the opposite side of the cliff.	☐ ☐ ☐

How to Get Information

Oshu City website

In addition to the latest disaster information, it provides information on disaster preparedness efforts and procedures after a disaster.
<https://www.city.oshu.iwate.jp>



For iOS



For Android

Oshu City official app "Pochitto Oshu"

You can receive important notices from the city via push notifications and view disaster-related information.

Tankome (information email service for the Oshu and Kanegasaki areas)

Available on smartphones, tablets, and mobile phones with an email address.
<https://www.tankome.jp/agriMob/pubUserNewRegister.do>



Iwate Disaster Information Portal

You can check weather information, evacuation information, and disaster response updates for Iwate Prefecture.
<https://iwate-bousai.my.salesforce-sites.com/>

Iwate Prefecture River Information System

You can check river water levels and rainfall in Iwate Prefecture.
<http://kasen.pref.iwate.jp/iwate/servlet/Gamen30Servlet>



Japan Meteorological Agency KIKIKURU (Risk Distribution Map)

You can see where the risk of sediment-related disasters, inundation, and flood is increasing.
<https://www.jma.go.jp/bosai/risk/>



Disaster Information Center, Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism

It collects disaster-related information held by the Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism and provides it in an easy-to-understand way.
 PC <https://www.mlit.go.jp/saigai/bosaijoho/>



Disaster Information for River, Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism

It provides a wide range of information on water-related disasters, including river water levels and rainfall across Japan.
<https://www.river.go.jp>



Disaster Emergency Message Dial

What is the Disaster Emergency Message Dial?

This is a voice message board service that becomes available when communication to disaster-affected areas becomes difficult due to increased call volume caused by disasters such as earthquakes or storms and floods.

Record a message: 171-1- the phone number of the person in the disaster-affected area

Play a message: 171-2- the phone number of the person in the disaster-affected area

Message content (time): Up to 30 seconds per message

Message storage period: Until the Disaster Emergency Message Dial (171) service ends

Maximum number of messages: Up to 20 messages per phone number
 Available phones: Landline phones, INS Net, Hikari Phone (excluding rotary phones), mobile phones, and disaster emergency public phones

Contact Information for Disaster-Related Organizations

Oshu City Hall main office	0197-24-2111
Fire Services Section, Crisis Management Department	0197-34-2235
Disaster Prevention Section, Crisis Management Department	0197-34-2236
General Branch Office	
Esashi	0197-35-2111
Maesawa	0197-56-2111
Isawa	0197-46-2111
Koromogawa	0197-52-3111
Prefectural Southern Regional Development Bureau	0197-22-2811

In case of fire, accidents, or injuries

Oshu Kanegasaki Administrative Association Fire Department	0197-24-7211
Oshu Police Station	0197-25-0110
Oshu Public Health Center	0197-22-2831

In case of river flooding or emergency dam releases

Mizusawa Branch Office, Iwate Office of River and National Highway	0197-24-4173
Kitakami River Integrated Dam Management Office	0197-49-2981
Isawa Dam Management Branch Office	

In case of power outages or fallen utility poles

Tohoku Electric Power Network Call Center	0120-175-366
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Oshu City Hazard Map: March 2026

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The maps in this publication were prepared based on our residential map data (Oshu City: Mizusawa, Esashi, Maesawa/Koromogawa, Isawa). In addition, the publication incorporates field survey information from the residential maps, as well as detailed information added through our own editorial work.