



Fact Sheet: Tsunami Warnings via Wireless Emergency Alerts (WEA)

NOAA's National Weather Service (NWS) will activate Wireless Emergency Alert (WEA) capable cell phones for Tsunami Warnings.

Tsunami Warnings only: The NWS will activate WEA for Tsunami Warnings. [Tsunami Information Statements, Advisories, and Watches](#) will not be sent via WEA, but will be available on tsunami.gov and all other NWS dissemination systems.

NWS will activate WEA on first issuance of a Tsunami Warning, including upgrade to a Warning if a Tsunami Watch or Tsunami Advisory was issued about an event previously.

First warning only: Only the first Tsunami Warning in a specific area will activate WEA. Tsunami warning continuation or cancellation messages will not activate WEA. This information will be available on tsunami.gov and all other NWS dissemination systems.

Tsunami WEA message: WEA messages are limited to 90 characters. The following wording was selected after a rigorous review process that took into account that areas under Tsunami Warning usually span multiple counties/boroughs and state borders and tsunami waves will reach shorelines at different times: *Tsunami danger on the coast. Go to high ground or move inland. Listen to local news. -NWS*

WEA-enabled mobile devices to receive messages within a FIPS-code warning area: While tsunami warnings are issued for NWS zones, NWS zones are not understood by WEA. Tsunami WEA activation will target the FIPS code (i.e., county level) until next generation tsunami alert authoring tools provide the capability for NWS to describe the warning area more precisely. However, the WEA message will include "Tsunami danger on the coast" to convey the actual warning area for WEA recipients.

More information: Please visit the [Wireless Emergency Alert page](#) on the National Weather Service website or contact your local [National Weather Service Forecast Office](#).