

Osaka City Disaster Prevention and Mitigation Ordinance

--- Save Lives through Self-Help, Mutual Help, and Public Help ---

On February 1, 2015, Osaka City implemented the Disaster Prevention and Mitigation Ordinance which established a mechanism for disaster prevention and mitigation by means of self-help, residents helping each other, and public sources of help.

① Clarification of responsibilities and roles as well as cooperation among the Osaka City government, residents, and businesses

The main responsibilities and roles of the Osaka City government, residents, and businesses in disaster preparedness were clarified.

- **Osaka City (Government)**
 - Development of local disaster preparedness plans for Osaka City and each ward
 - Support for volunteer disaster preparedness activities
 - Development of business continuation plans to ensure the stability of residents' lives during emergencies
- **Residents**
 - Securing the safety of homes and acquiring knowledge about disaster preparedness
 - Participation in emergency drills
 - Formation of volunteer disaster preparedness organizations
- **Businesses**
 - Securing the safety of offices and preparation of equipment and materials to respond emergencies
 - Participation in emergency drills
 - The development of disaster prevention and mitigation plans and business continuation plans in emergencies

② Improvements in regional disaster preparedness through the establishment of volunteer disaster preparedness organizations

Self-help and mutual help among local communities are promoted and disaster preparedness capability is strengthened through initiatives by residents and volunteer disaster preparedness organizations.

- Development of district disaster preparedness plans and the promotion of volunteer disaster preparedness activities
- Conducting of emergency drills at least once a year
- Collection of information on evacuation and possible damage
 - Confirmation of the location of shelters and evacuation routes
 - Gathering of information in the event of disaster or the risk of disaster
- Securing evacuation sites
 - Securing sites in advance that will allow evacuation from flooding caused by tsunamis or other events by obtaining cooperation from site managers in accordance with the regional characteristics.
- Working with shelter managers in emergencies
- Assisting evacuees that will need help evacuating
 - Voluntary disaster preparedness organizations will develop plans to assist those in need of support during evacuations and take any other necessary actions.

③ Response to disaster risk in accordance with regional characteristics

Osaka City, residents and businesses are committed to the following measures:

- Prevention and mitigation of flood damage caused by events like torrential rains
- Creation and implementation by the managers of places such as underground spaces of evacuation plans for flooding caused by tsunami and torrential rains
- Promotion of aseismic measures for facilities in Osaka City and the aseismic retrofitting of buildings by residents and businesses
- Measures to prevent accidents in which passengers get stuck in elevators during an earthquake
- Improvements to disaster prevention structures in urban areas such as increasing the number of non-combustible buildings
- Measures for people at train stations who may have problems returning home during an emergency

④ Promotion of participation and involvement by a diverse group of participants

- Osaka City promotes the creation of an environment that allows women, the elderly, people with disabilities, and others to easily participate in disaster prevention and mitigation measures.
- Osaka City promotes disaster prevention and mitigation measures with special attention to those who need extra care such as the elderly, people with disabilities, and infants by stockpiling items they may need.

Osaka City's Disaster Preparedness Plans

Plans by the City

- Plans prepared by the Osaka City Disaster Prevention Council concerning disaster preparedness, emergency measures, recovery and reconstruction for the entire city
- Plans that include disaster preparedness measures of the city, administrative bodies, and public organizations as well as comprehensive activities including assistance with volunteer disaster preparedness activities by residents and businesses

Plans by the Wards

- Plans that define disaster prevention, emergency response measures, and recovery measures for wards, which each ward office creates in accordance with the characteristics of that ward and the City plans

Plans by the Districts

- Plans that outline the disaster preparedness activities of each district that are prepared by the residents and businesses of each district
- Plans that include mutual help activities in each district including regional emergency drills, the stockpiling of food and water, and assistance for the evacuation of the elderly and others who need help