

Introduction

Large-scale earthquakes that have taken many valuable lives, such as the Great Hanshin-Awaji Earthquake in January 1995 and the Great East Japan Earthquake in March 2011, have struck, one after another, and it is predicted that earthquakes in Tokai, Tonankai, and Nankai, or a huge earthquake that links those earthquakes through the Nankai Trough, will occur in the near future.

In addition to earthquakes, various other natural disasters such as typhoons and torrential rains have been occurring all over Japan in recent years, resulting in the loss of valuable lives and property. Now, more than ever, we must prepare for disasters.

In preparation for the unpredictable and diverse disasters such as earthquakes and torrential rains, Osaka City has taken various measures based on the Osaka City Regional Disaster Prevention Plan and the Osaka City Disaster Prevention and Mitigation Ordinance to protect the valuable lives, bodies, and property of our residents from disasters. We are striving to create a safe, disaster-resistant city.

From past earthquakes we have learned that it is very important to be focused on protecting our own lives and protecting our city by ourselves in the event of a disaster. The damage can be minimized if everyone works together right away by rescuing others, helping each other, and putting out fires even before the public service workers arrive on the scene.

For this reason, Osaka City's local communities have formed volunteer disaster prevention organizations, led by the local disaster prevention leaders. They hold workshops and seminars on how to prepare for disasters, conduct emergency drills, and other activities in order to enhance the community's abilities to defend against disasters.

Each resident must acquire the correct knowledge, before disaster strikes, about disaster preparedness and mitigation, the stockpiling of goods at home, and active participation in disaster prevention activities such as emergency drills conducted by volunteer disaster prevention organizations in your area.

In addition, disaster management plans must be put in place in each region, including evacuation procedures that fit the organizational structure, local circumstances, and disaster characteristics, and a safety confirmation system, in accordance with the drills and other disaster prevention activities led by volunteer disaster prevention organizations.

The City will not only provide support for and cooperation with disaster prevention activities conducted by the residents, businesses, and volunteer disaster prevention organizations, but will also implement various disaster prevention and mitigation initiatives.

No one can stop natural disasters, but we can minimize the damage through daily preparation and disaster drills.

We hope that this handbook will be useful and serve as a guide to protect your home and community from disasters.

Index

Chapter 1

Preparing for Earthquakes and Tsunamis

What Makes Earthquakes Happen?	1
Damage Predictions for Osaka City	2
If an Earthquake Happens, Protect Yourself and Your Family	3
Protecting Yourself In Case of a Tsunami	7

Chapter 2

Preparing for Wind and Flood Damage

Osaka City's Geography Makes It Prone to Flooding...	9
Typhoons and Torrential Rains that Cause Major Damage...	9
Expected Flood Damage	10
Evacuation Flow Chart	11
Are You Familiar with Evacuation Information?	12
Evacuation Information Issued by the Osaka City	12
MY TIMELINE	13
Protecting Yourself from Storms or Floods	15
Special Alarms	17

Chapter 3

Routine Preparations for Earthquakes and Disasters Caused by Wind or Floods

Holding Family Disaster Prevention Meetings	18
Emergency Kits	19
Items to Keep at Home	19
Safety Measures for Your Home	20
Can Your House Withstand an Earthquake?	20

Have You Established a Safe Space at Home?	21
Preparing for Emergencies-Things to know!Things to learn!...	23

Chapter 4

Participate in Community Disaster Preparedness Activities

Self-Help and Mutual-Help Will Save Lives!	25
Participate in Your Community's Disaster Prevention Activities!	26
Voluntary Disaster Preparedness Systems Are Important	26
Think about Those Who Need Extra Care	27
Thinking in Advance about Assistance in the Event of a Disaster	28
What to Do When Disaster Strikes	29
Support Plan	30

Chapter 5

Life in Evacuation Shelters

Things to Know About Life in Evacuation Shelters...	31
After a Disaster	33

Chapter 6

In case of emergency

If You Encounter a Fire or Need an Ambulance	34
When First Aid Is Needed	35
To protect your body and life from ballistic missiles...	37
Make an Emergency Map for Your Neighborhood	39
Emergency Contact Card	At the end
Osaka Disaster Prevention App	At the end
Emergency Contact Information	At the end