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**PRESS RELEASE**

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**LOS ANGELES COUNTY OFFICIALS ADVISE RESIDENTS  
OF UPCOMING TSUNAMI WARNING COMMUNICATIONS SYSTEM TEST, MARCH 23**

The National Oceanic Atmospheric and Administration (NOAA) and State of California Governor's Office of Emergency Services (Cal OES) plan to conduct a test of the tsunami warning communications system on Wednesday, March 23 at 10:15 a.m. PDT.

This emergency test will be broadcast on NOAA Weather Radio All Hazards, local television and radio stations in southern California. To assist persons with disabilities and others with access and functional needs, some television systems are programmed to scroll a written standard emergency alert message and an audio message will also say that the message is only a test. In some cases, the message may not contain the word "TEST." To avoid confusion with an actual alert, the test will be canceled if there is excessive seismic activity 24 hours prior to the test.

The test is a cooperative effort between NOAA, Cal OES, California Broadcasters Association, and local emergency management officials.

"The County urges its residents to be prepared for naturally occurring hazards such as earthquakes and tsunamis," said Jeff Reeb, Director of Los Angeles County's Office of Emergency Management. "A first step is to find out if you live, work or recreate in a potential tsunami inundation zone by visiting [TsunamiZone.org](http://TsunamiZone.org). In addition to knowing what are tsunami warning signs, keep yourself and your loved ones safe by developing a family emergency plan. Residents can also take action by connecting with local officials to organize a 'Tsunami Walk' or evacuation drill." For more information on how to join others around the country to practice preparedness, visit America's PrepareAthon! website at <https://community.fema.gov>.

The County's partnership with NOAA during Tsunami Preparedness Week is from March 20<sup>th</sup> through the 26<sup>th</sup>. The following is a list of NOAA Tsunami resources and websites: [tsunami.noaa.gov](http://tsunami.noaa.gov), [tsunami.gov](http://tsunami.gov), [weather.gov/tsunamisafety](http://weather.gov/tsunamisafety), the NOAA National Tsunami Warning Center website at [ntwc.arh.noaa.gov](http://ntwc.arh.noaa.gov), and National Tsunami Preparedness Week [nws.weather.gov/nthmp/tpw/tsunami-preparedness-week.html](http://nws.weather.gov/nthmp/tpw/tsunami-preparedness-week.html).

L.A. County residents and businesses, including persons with disabilities and others with access and functional needs, may call 211 LA County for emergency preparedness information, and other referral services. The toll-free 2-1-1 is available 24-hour and seven days a week. 211 LA County services can also be accessed at <http://211la.org>.

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