

The top priority is safeguarding life

To avoid wondering what to do after a natural disaster strikes, it's important to use this Disaster Readiness Guidebook to review the action you should take in the event of a disaster and to be prepared.

It looks like heavy rains will continue. Will we be OK at home?
▶▶▶ Page 12 : Choosing to evacuate

We just moved here, so we don't know where the shelters are.
▶▶▶ Page 36 : Shelters in Hirakata City

Earthquakes occur suddenly and without warning, so I imagine I'd panic... What should I do?
▶▶▶ Page 26 : In the event of an earthquake

Are there any hazards on the way from our home to the shelter?
▶▶▶ Page 40 : Using hazard maps

How can we help the old lady next door when evacuating?
▶▶▶ Page 34 : Helping others in a disaster and offering first aid

What should I put in my go-bag, and where should I keep it? It's a good idea to split things up into multiple bags so they don't get too heavy, right?
▶▶▶ Page 28 : Things to take with you in an emergency and related supplies

If the wardrobe in my room falls over in an earthquake, I could be trapped underneath it... I'm going to take care of this today.
▶▶▶ Page 24 : Safety measures at home

On the publication of this guidebook

Recently, it seems like we've seen major damage from natural disasters across the country every year. Hirakata experienced large-scale power outages, damage to homes, and other impacts from the 2018 Osaka Earthquake, which had a seismic intensity of "weak 6" on the Japanese scale, and Typhoon 21 (Typhoon Jebi).

Moreover, the COVID-19 pandemic has been rampaging worldwide since 2020, bringing us face to face with a new crisis. In the event that an increase in infections were to coincide with a natural disaster, the large number of casualties and patients could cause confusion at shelters and precipitate a collapse of the healthcare system. In addition to putting in place policies and manuals for preventing the spread of COVID-19 in shelters so that we can avoid this scenario, we've stepped up efforts to prepare for and mitigate disasters, for example by stockpiling sanitary supplies and carrying out training on how to open shelters.

This revised edition of the Disaster Readiness Guidebook reflects the abolition of the previous system of evacuation advisories in favor of a standardized system of evacuation orders as well as changes in the names used for shelter information as a result of the revision of the Basic Act on Disaster Management in May 2021. It also reflects changes in the locations and names of primary shelters due to closures and consolidation of elementary schools.

I would encourage you to take this opportunity to review the potential hazards in the area where you live and to make preparations in your daily life so that you can evacuate in an appropriate manner in the event of a disaster.



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