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Homer renews its National Weather Service TsunamiReady Community Certification

National Weather Service officials have recognized Homer as a newly recertified TsunamiReady[®] Community. The <u>TsunamiReady</u> program helps community leaders and residents better prepare for tsunami impacts and flooding. TsunamiReady communities have made a strong commitment to implement the infrastructure and systems needed to save lives and protect property when tsunamis occur.

TsunamiReady certification is a voluntary community recognition program that promotes tsunami hazard preparedness as an active collaboration among federal, state/territorial and local emergency management agencies, community leaders and the public. The main goal of the program is to improve public safety before, during and after tsunami emergencies. Established in 2001, TsunamiReady certification helps communities minimize the risk posed by tsunamis through better risk assessment, planning, education and warning communications.

To be recognized as TsunamiReady, a community must maintain a 24-hour warning point and support emergency operations center operations; define tsunami hazard zones, produce evacuation maps and install evacuation route signs; support ongoing, sustained tsunami public education and outreach, including to schools in tsunami hazard zones; support more than one way of receiving tsunami warnings and alerting the public; and develop a formal tsunami operations plan and hold annual exercises. The TsunamiReady recognition is valid for four years and can be renewed.

NOAA's <u>National Weather Service</u> is the primary source of weather data, forecasts and warnings for the United States and its territories. The National Weather Service operates the most advanced weather and flood warning and forecast system in the world, helping to protect lives and property and enhance the national economy. Working with partners, the National Weather Service is building a <u>Weather-Ready Nation</u> to support community resilience in the face of increasing vulnerability to extreme weather. Visit us online at <u>weather.gov</u> and on social media platforms including <u>Facebook</u> and <u>Twitter</u>.

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