

LIVING GUIDE MORIOKA

MORIOKA INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS ASSOCIATION

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Preparing For Disaster

March 11th, 2016 marks five years since the Great East Japan Earthquake. Disaster recovery and reconstruction efforts have been promoted in costal areas. In Morioka, where you live, it is never certain when this kind of disaster will occur. Five years after the Great East Japan Earthquake it is important to know the possible disasters that may occur in Morioka, and the disaster response in your region.

Types of Disasters That May Occur in Morioka

1. Earthquake disaster

It is considered that if a big earthquake occurs, many old buildings may fall down or collapse. There is also the risk that fire will break out from collapsed buildings.



2. Flooding

In the river region, there is the risk of flooding after a long period of rain during the rainy season or rain from a typhoon. Additionally, in the city areas, water may overflow from manholes into the streets.



3. Sediment Disaster

Since there are mountains and hills near suburban areas in Morioka city, sediment disaster may occur due to heavy rain or earthquakes.

Cliff failure

Steep mountain slopes and cliffs can suddenly collapsed. Sometimes it occurs without any signs, and it crushes the houses below the cliffs.



Landslide

In areas of special geological feature, a mass amount of soil may begin to move.

Debris flow

Areas where soil and sand have accumulated, such as valleys, can overflow with rain. Large rocks or driftwood may wash away houses and farms at furious speeds.

Preparing for Disasters

Below information that will help you to prepare for future unexpected disasters.

1. Important Questions

- Where are the safe routes in your condominium or apartment?
 - Where are the emergency assembly area and dangerous zone around your house?
 - How will your family make contact each other if separated?
- list emergency contacts
 - cell phone (with hand-powered or dry battery-type charger)
 - flashlight, portable radio, dry batteries
 - water, emergency food, plastic water container, matches

2. Emergency Kit Checklist (example)

- passport, ID
- cash, bankbook, cash card, health insurance card



- underwear, towels, tissues,
- first-aid kit, usual medication
- medical masks, gloves
- umbrella, rain wear, outfit for cold weather, long boots

Emergency Sites or Shelters For Foreigners

Evacuation shelters are set up in places such as gymnasiums of schools if your evacuation time is going to be long after large disasters. Many people gather there. According to the situation, items like food or blankets are distributed. In Morioka City, there are emergency shelters for those who don't know Japanese or who have little or no confidence to speak Japanese. There is staff who can speak foreign languages. In the event of an emergency, we will also give you information on our Facebook (Japanese/English).



Emergency shelters for foreign people

- Ueda Public Hall (4-1-1 Ueda Morioka city)
- International Exchange Center at Aina center (1-7-1 Morioka-eki Nishi-dori, Morioka City)

