

In the event of a disaster there will be lots of confusion and this will make it hard to gather correct information. Misinformation can cause panic to spread and lead to even more confusion. Of course food, clothing and shelter are important for disaster victims but please

remember that the correct information in times of disaster also plays an important role.

In Kawasaki after an earthquake happens, people will be given information through the following ways.

Firstly, there is the emergency information radio system, which is like a PA system. This emergency radio system sends out official information from the city office and ward offices here in Kawasaki. You can listen to this emergency information in different places : evacuation centers, municipal elementary/junior high/ senior high schools, the houses of residents organization members, in most of the pre-schools and kindergartens and in the city welfare centers. All these places have indoor emergency information radio systems. At the various evacuation centers, steep slope areas, in front of the station terminals, etc, there are outdoor emergency information radio systems. If a blackout happens these radios have enough battery power to last for three days.

Another information service is FM K-City, Kawasaki Citizens Radio Service Broadcasting on 79.1 MHz. This radio station has been running since 1996, broadcasting to the Kawasaki City area. In case of an earthquake FM K-City will broadcast disaster information and information concerning how to live in times of disaster. Also there will be regular newsflashes relayed from the City Disaster Prevention Bureau about disaster and emergency information.

In case of disasters such as earthquakes it is important to carefully listen to accurate information. You are encouraged to listen to FM K-City on the radio. Also it is recommended to check out Kawasaki City's Homepage. On this homepage there is information about evacuation centers, information concerning how to live during the time of the disaster and safety information.

So remember to please listen with care to correct information in the time of disaster.

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Here in Kawasaki City most of the elementary, junior high and senior high schools (numbering about 170 places) along with the nursing college and Nambu Disaster Center are evacuation centers. The closest evacuation center for you to go to is indicated on an earthquake information signpost near to where you live. If because of danger you are unable to go to the evacuation center indicated, please go to another evacuation area ,which is closer and safer to get to, for example a park, an open area, or a wide evacuation area.

As a rule, injured victims of a disaster should be evacuated to the closest evacuation center to their home. Also, all of your family should talk about and check which evacuation center they should go to in advance.

Next I would like to inform you about procedures for evacuation centers and Regional Disaster Base Points. In case of an earthquake, city workers will survey and check out damage that has occurred in and around the evacuation centers. They will do this in order to keep communication up to date between local government administration and the evacuation centers. Of the all evacuation centers, 51 municipal junior high schools and the Nambu Disaster Center function not only as evacuation centers but also as Regional Disaster Base Points. These Regional Disaster Base Points will supply necessary food, blankets etc, along with medical care and they will also act as information gathering points.

Independent Disaster Groups will be the central part of managing evacuation centers. Citizens are asked to mutually help each other and cooperate with the management in the running of the evacuation

centers. Please do your best to help the smooth running of the center.

Furthermore, from the experience of previous disasters in other areas, it is wise that you should store up to at least 3 days worth of rations and goods for survival. It will take several days for water, electric power, gas supply and transport networks to be repaired. It will also take time for human aid and support to arrive from neighbouring cities and areas. So you should prepare enough food and essentials to last several days. Also consult with your family what to do in case of a disaster.



When a disaster occurs you will naturally want to telephone your family to see that they are ok. To do this there is a special system that allows you to record and replay messages to your family to check on their safety in times of disaster. This NTT's voice mail service: "Saigai-yo Dengon Daiyaru" or Disaster Message Dial. This Saigai-yo Dengon Daiyaru is available in times of disaster. You will be informed when this service becomes available through adverts on TV and radio.

The following is the procedure on how to use the Saigai-yo Dengon Daiyaru: Dial 171 on your phone. All the guidance you will hear will be in Japanese.

A voice will give you a choice of 1, 2, 3 and 4 to press on your phone.

Press 1 to record your message ;

Press 2 to replay your message ;

Press 3 to record your secret user ID number ;

Press 4 to replay your secret ID number ;

When you have heard the initial message press 1.

Next you will be told to enter the city code and phone number of the person you want to contact.

Dial the number and within 30 seconds the message will be replayed.

You will not be informed if the message has been automatically recorded.

Even if you recorded your message ,it will not be informed automatically to the person whom you want to contact.

You can check to see if your message was recorded by redialing 171.

In the time of a disaster the preceding instructions on how to use the Saigai-yo Dengon Daiyaru may change. Please double check by using your TV or radio for information updates.

If you can not use your house phone, you should be able to use a public phone. Check your neighbourhood to see where your closest phone is.

Furthermore you can use ADSL Internet to email your family.

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