

Grays Harbor County Emergency Management

Preparedness on the Harbor

Volume 5, Issue 3

May-June 2019

Ghost Forest, Copalis

In this Issue.....

Ghost Forest

National Seasonal
Preparedness Msg
Calendar

Raffle Winners

Radio Show

Tsunami
Roadshow

Preparing Homes
for Wildfire

Upcoming Events

Contacts & info



Looking for a Kayak/Canoe Trip this summer Head out to the Ghost Forest of Copalis in Copalis Beach

On January 26, 1700, a massive 9.0 earthquake struck the Pacific Ocean, ripping through the Pacific Northwest and creating a tsunami as far away as [Japan](#). Scientists took years to understand the details of this earthquake since the Native Americans who were the area's only residents at the time kept only oral records of it. One clue, however, was a forest of dead trees standing along the Copalis River in [Washington](#).

In the massive flood, the land on which the trees were standing dropped over six feet and was completely inundated with salt water, turning the dense forest into a marsh. The now dead trees have remained standing ever since, ghostly grey poles dotting the landscape.

Although an enormous tsunami had been recorded in Edo-period Japan around 1700, and Native American and First Nations peoples had passed down stories of this devastating earthquake that could be dated to

approximately the same time, scientific investigation of the ghost forest at Copalis provided detailed evidence of this seismic event.

The enormous grove of ghostly red cedars, geologists Brian Atwater and David Yamaguchi discovered, was killed by an inundation of salt water. The 1700 Cascadia Earthquake, whose date was confirmed by reports from the Kwakwaka'wakw indigenous group of [British Columbia](#) to records kept from 18th century Japan, had caused the trees to die all at once, rather than over time as had been previously supposed. For more information on the research Atwater and Yamaguchi conducted at Copalis, see this

[USGS report](#).

<http://www.where2go.co/FeedItem/Ghost-Forest-of-Copalis-in-Copalis-Beach-Washington/>

Ghost Forest photos provided by Hannah Cleverly



Copalis



Brian Atwater, USGS and Hannah Cleverly, GHC Emergency Management



Ghost Forest, Copalis



2019 NATIONAL SEASONAL PREPAREDNESS MESSAGING CALENDAR

May

- National Building Safety Month
- SBA National Small Business Week (May 5-11, 2019)
- Wildfire Community Preparedness Day (May 4, 2019)
- National Hurricane Preparedness Week (May 5 - 11, 2019)
- National Police Week (May 12-18, 2019)
- National Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Week (May 19-25, 2019)
- National Dam Safety Awareness Day (May 31)
- Older American's Month
- Military Appreciation Month

June

- National CPR/AED Awareness Week
- Pet Preparedness
Pet Preparedness Social Media Toolkit
- Extreme Heat
Extreme Heat Social Media Toolkit
National Weather Service Summer Safety
- National Lightning Safety Awareness Week
- National Insurance Awareness Day (June 28)

<https://www.ready.gov/calendar>



4

International Firefighters' Day



12-18

National Police Week



18, 1980

Mount St Helens Eruption



19-25

National EMS Week




27

Memorial Day

To all who have laid down their lives in defense of the flag

thank you



Volcano Preparedness Month

There are 5 active volcanoes in Washington. Which one is yours?

CONGRATULATIONS RAFFLE WINNERS!

March and April Raffle Winners

Jana Candler
&
Karl Harris

In 2019 subscribers of the Grays Harbor County
Notification System will have a chance of
winning an
All Hazard Alert Weather Radio.

Grays Harbor County Notification System
REGISTER TODAY!



Listen for Tammy Fairley
of the
Ocean Shores **CERT** Team on:
KOSW and KXRO

KOSW 91.3FM or <http://koswradio.com> 9:00am

May 23rd
June 27th

KXRO 101.7 FM / 1320 AM 8:40am

May 28th
June 25th



You're in a Tsunami Hazard Zone.

Now What:

Did you miss the Tsunami Roadshow?

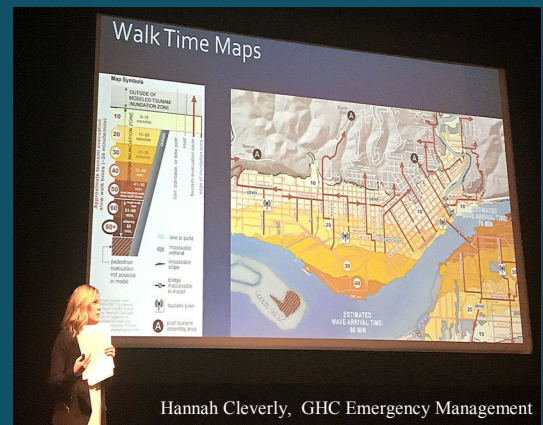
If so presentations of the Roadshow will soon be posted on the Washington State Emergency Management Division Website:

<https://www.mil.wa.gov/tsunami>

If you have never been to a roadshow the 2018 roadshow can be found on TVW at:

<https://www.tvw.org/watch/?eventID=2018041007>

Tsunami Evacuation Walk Time Maps Published



Hannah Cleverly, GHC Emergency Management

DNR has published tsunami evacuation walk time maps for Port Angeles, Bellingham, Anacortes, and the towns of Aberdeen, Hoquiam, and Cosmopolis. The maps show the amount of time it would take to evacuate from within the modeled inundation zone of a Cascadia-sourced subduction zone earthquake. The maps show the extent of the tsunami inundation zone and the paths of tsunami evacuation routes. Colors indicate how many minutes it would take to get to safety from any given location within the inundation zone.

The walk time maps for Aberdeen, Hoquiam and Cosmopolis can be found [HERE](#)

The maps are also available through an interactive map on the DNR website:

<https://www.dnr.wa.gov/programs-and-services/geology/geologic-hazards/tsunamis/evacuation>

What are the primary threats to homes during a wildfire?

Research around home destruction vs. home survival in wildfires point to embers and small flames as the main way that the majority of homes ignite in wildfires. Embers are burning pieces of airborne wood and/or vegetation that can be carried more than a mile through the wind can cause spot fires and ignite homes, debris and other objects.

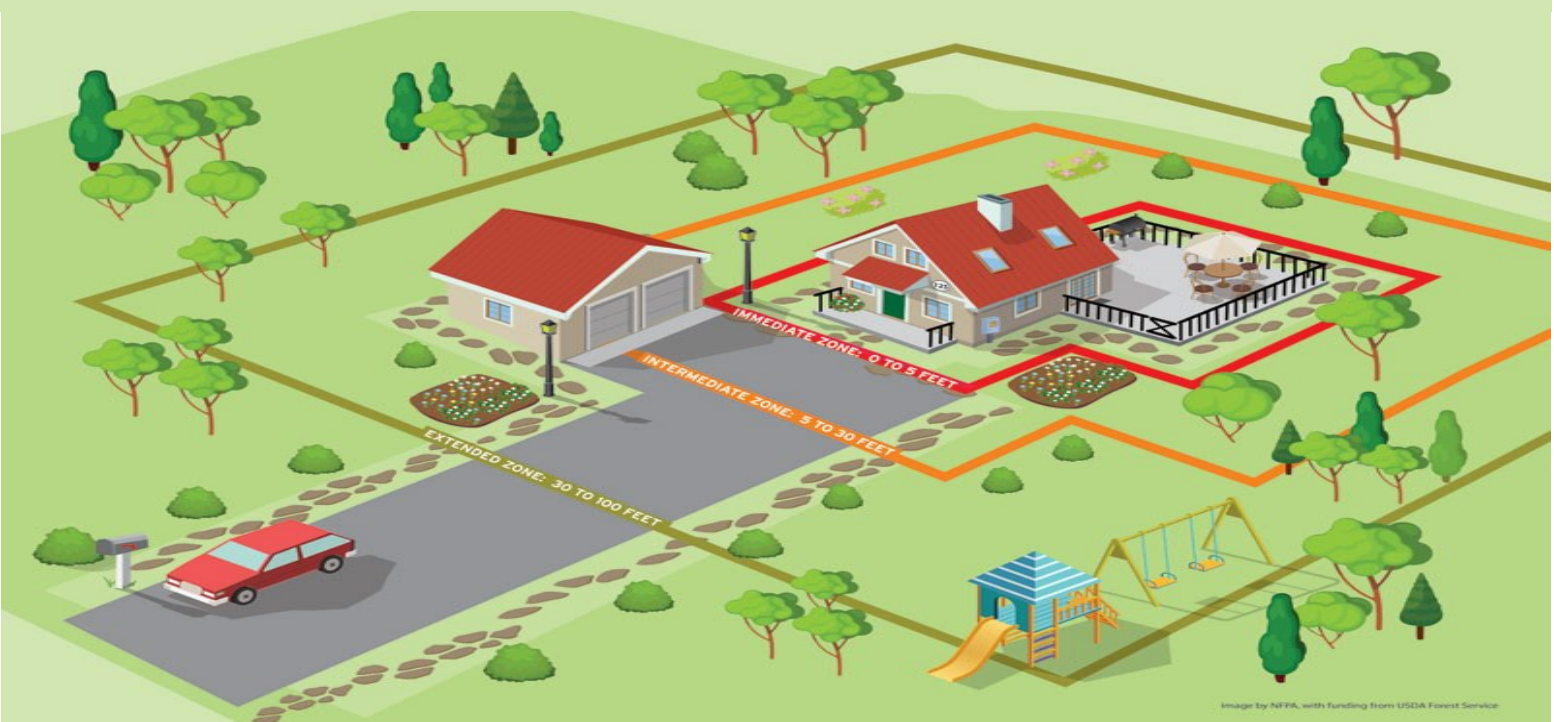
There are methods for homeowners to prepare their homes to withstand ember attacks and minimize the likelihood of flames or surface fire touching the home or any attachments. Experiments, models and post-fire studies have shown homes ignite due to the condition of the home and everything around it, up to 200' from the foundation. This is called the Home Ignition Zone (HIZ).

Learn more about how wildfires spread and ignite home in our online course

[Understanding the Wildfire Threat to Homes. An overview of fire history, fire basics, and how homes burn.](#)

What is the Home Ignition Zone?

The concept of the home ignition zone was developed by retired USDA Forest Service fire scientist Jack Cohen in the late 1990s, following some breakthrough experimental research into how homes ignite due to the effects of radiant heat. The HIZ is divided into three zones.



Immediate zone

The home and the area 0-5' from the furthest attached exterior point of the home; defined as a non-combustible area. Science tells us this is the most important zone to take immediate action on as it is the most vulnerable to embers. **START WITH THE HOUSE ITSELF** then move into the landscaping section of the Immediate Zone.

- Clean roofs and gutters of dead leaves, debris and pine needles that could catch embers.
- Replace or repair any loose or missing shingles or roof tiles to prevent ember penetration.
- Reduce embers that could pass through vents in the eaves by installing 1/8 inch metal mesh screening.
- Clean debris from exterior attic vents and install 1/8 inch metal mesh screening to reduce embers.
- Repair or replace damaged or loose window screens and any broken windows Screen or box-in areas below patios and decks with wire mesh to prevent debris and combustible materials from accumulating.
- Move any flammable material away from wall exteriors – mulch, flammable plants, leaves and needles, firewood piles – anything that can burn. Remove anything stored underneath decks or porches.

For more information visit: <https://www.nfpa.org/Public-Education/By-topic/Wildfire/Preparing-homes-for-wildfire>



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Facebook

<https://www.facebook.com/Grays-Harbor-County-Emergency-Management-426601594068767/>



follow us on
twitter

FOLLOW Grays Harbor Emergency Management [@GHCDEM](https://twitter.com/GHCDEM) on Twitter

VISIT the Grays Harbor Emergency Management website at
http://cms5.revize.com/revize/graysharborcounty/departments/emergency_management/index.php



Contacts & Info

Lake Quinault Lodge Provided by Coral Lyons

Upcoming Events

Save the Date

Emergency Preparedness EXPO 2019

When: Saturday, October 5th

Where: Shoppes at Riverside (Formerly The South Shore Mall)

MORE DETAILS TO COME!

Red Cross Blood Drive

When: Tuesday, May 14th (1:30-6:30pm)

Where: Montesano Presbyterian Church
201 McBryde Ave E, Montesano, WA 98563

Walk-ins welcome or call (800) 733-2767 for availability.

CERT Training

When: June 20th - June 22nd

Where: Hopkins Early Learning Center

To register email ghccert@aol.com
With your name, city, phone number and email address.

Understanding Your Hospital

When: May 15th and June 19th (6:00pm)

Where: Conference Room C,

GHCH Main Campus 915 Anderson Drive, Aberdeen
OPEN TO THE PUBLIC
For more information, call (360) 537-5136