

Bandon Tsunami Quest

Established: January 2017 by Bandon High School student Donnegal Gordon

Box Monitor: Trent Hatfield, Bandon High School

Driving Directions: From NORTH: Head south on US-101 to Bandon. Turn right on Delaware Ave. SE and then left onto 1st Street SE. Just past Alabama Avenue, park at Weber’s Pier on the right.

From SOUTH: Head north on US-101 to Bandon. Turn left onto Oregon Ave. SE, and then right onto 1st Street SE. Weber’s Pier and parking are on your immediate left.

Tsunamis are dangerous and can be deadly, if you don’t know what to do when one occurs. A tsunami is likely to occur after an earthquake off the Oregon coast, because the shaking of the earth creates a wave offshore that will travel toward land and flood low-lying areas. If you feel an earthquake in Bandon, you can expect a tsunami wave to arrive very soon.

This Quest will help you walk an evacuation route that will show you how to get to the safety of higher ground. The route is a half-mile uphill walk on pavement and across a grassy school field. Be careful and watch for cars.

Let’s begin!

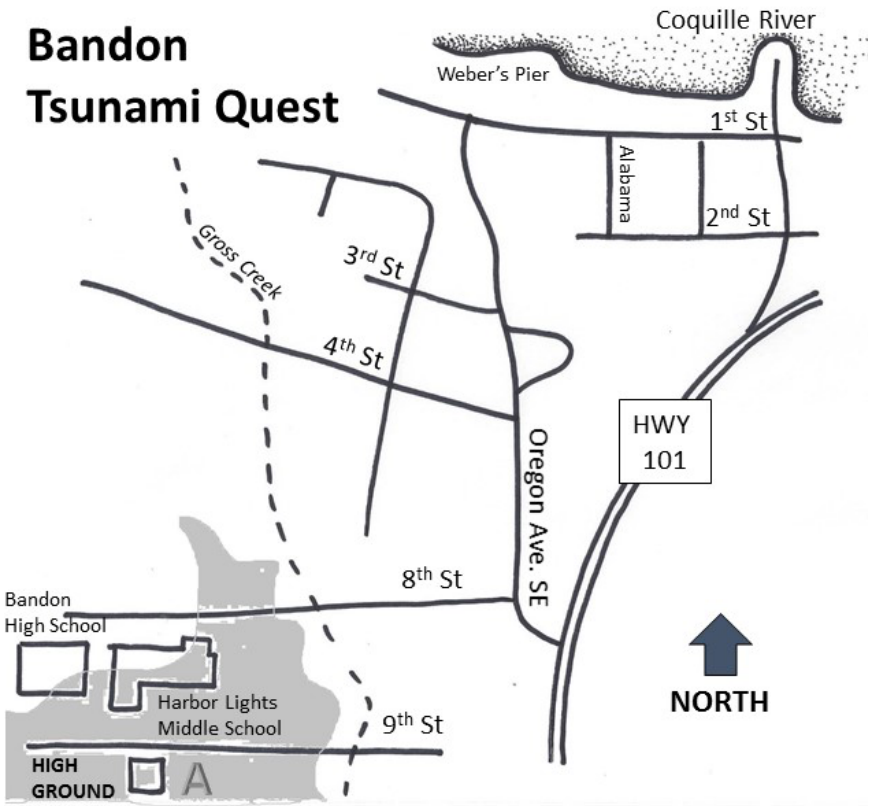
FIRST...

Begin your Quest at Weber’s Pier. Walk over to the sign that says “Weber’s Pier.” This would not be a tsunami safe zone if one occurs. It is

important to be aware of safe zones and evacuation routes when you are on the Oregon coast.

Take the sixth letter from the first word on the sign, and write it in square #4 of your mystery word.

Use this map to help you solve the Quest. Follow the directions and collect the letter clues to fill the numbered squares on the last page of this Quest. The message you complete will help you find the hidden Quest box.



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NEXT...

To the south there is a church bell on the top of the hill, and to the west there is a lighthouse. Look to the southwest and walk toward a giant sculpture of a rockfish made from marine debris. Near the fish, find three boulders and a sign.

This sign is a Tsunami Evacuation Map. The green places on the map are the safe, high ground areas. The orange and yellow places on the map are not safe during a tsunami, because those areas could get flooded. Find your position on the map. What color is this area on the map?

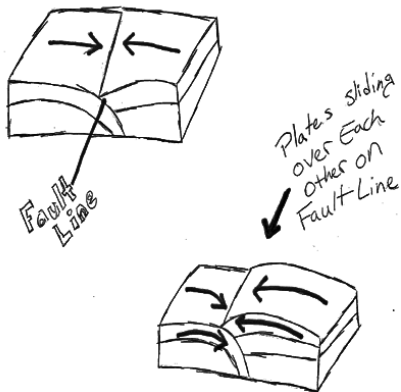
If you feel the ground shaking, that means a tsunami wave will be coming soon. When an earthquake occurs, the first thing to do is to duck, cover, and

hold, being sure to protect your head and neck from injury.

Do not stand under a doorway for cover if there is an earthquake. Get under a sturdy table or just stay clear of anything that might fall if you have nothing to get under.

If you are outside when an earthquake occurs, stay away from anything that could fall and just get down low where you are being sure to protect your head and neck.

Once the shaking stops, you will have only about ten minutes before the tsunami comes. So as soon as the shaking stops, immediately evacuate to high ground. Look at the sign and take the first letter from the first word at the top and put it in square #2 of your mystery word.



The Cascadia fault lies just off the Oregon coast. It is a boundary between two tectonic plates. The ocean plate is moving under the continental plate, which can result in powerful earthquakes.

NEXT...

Now continue southwest to the round evacuation sign located on the corner across the street.

Stay here and look up the hill while you read the next set of instructions.

In an earthquake, landslides can also occur and can damage roads and block routes. Landslides happen when the pull of gravity is greater than the sediment can take and the grains that are compacted together loosen, causing the ground to just slide down.

Look at the land next to the route that leads uphill. Do you think landslides could occur on these hills? How could a landslide affect your evacuation plans?

Walking up this street would be the most direct way to get to high ground. But during a practice evacuation (when there is no actual emergency), there could be cars on this road! So let's look for another way to get to high ground.

Walk east back toward town and turn right on Alabama Ave. Continue to the Masonic Temple building. Look to your right and see a red lamppost next to a path. Follow this path uphill to a parking lot.

Once up the hill, while standing on the sidewalk, can you spy a white arrow painted on the street in front of the inn? Which way is it pointing?

Take the fifth letter from the first word on the arrow on the ground and write it in square #7 of the mystery word.

NEXT...

Keep walking south up the hill until you see the sign for Third Street. Stop by the sign. Even though you are on higher ground, you aren't safe yet. Once you are evacuating, things you want to avoid are downed power lines, structures, and things that could fall on you.

Take the third letter from the first word on the Street Sign and insert in square #3 of your mystery word.

NEXT...

Walk south until you're next to two brick walls and stop.

Another thing to be aware of is liquefaction. This occurs when the earthquake reduces the strength of the soil and basically turns it into quicksand. If liquefaction occurs near or under walls like these, the walls can be severely damaged, sink, or even fall over due to instability.

Continue south and stop when you see a row of Monterey cypress trees extending perpendicular back from the east side of the road.

Take the last letter of the California city after which these trees are named and write it in square #11 of the mystery word.

When a tsunami occurs there will possibly be trees and fallen objects blocking your evacuation route, so it's a good idea to have a backup route. However, since you won't have much time to get to safety, it's important to

remain calm, pay attention, move quickly, and cooperate with the people around you in order to most efficiently use your time, thereby raising your chances of survival.

Turn west on Eighth Street and walk until you get to the school zone sign. Insert the fourth letter in the second word in square #1 of the mystery word.

NEXT...

From here, time how long it takes to get to the green road closing sign near the baseball field. (Keep track of how long it takes you, then read the following.)



If it took you more than a minute and a half, you're moving too slowly. This is important because if a tsunami were to occur, the safest way to get to high ground is on foot. Because of the earthquake, it might not be safe to drive a car. Plus, there will be lots of people trying to get to safety and most won't be in a car, so driving to high ground could increase the chances of people getting hurt.

Once you've reached high ground, be prepared to remain where you are for a couple of days or even longer. If you are in a group, do your best to get along with and help each other rather than making things more difficult, even if you're stuck with someone you absolutely don't like. You will probably have to share supplies and ration food, so it's a good idea to have an emergency pack with at least 72 hours' worth of water in it.

_, E,I,O,U, and sometimes Y. Take the missing vowel and write it in square #10 of the mystery word.

NEXT...

Continue on 8th Street, passing schools on your left. At the corner, turn left on Franklin Ave. and then left again onto 9th Street. Stop when you get to the Bandon School District office.

Congratulations! You have reached high ground! In the event of a real earthquake an tsunami, you would want to STAY at high ground for at least 24 hours. That's because several big waves could continue to flood low-lying areas for several hours.

After an earthquake and tsunami disaster, water and sanitation will be your main priorities. However, another thing to think about is shelter. A tarp or a tent is often recommended for your preparation pack.

You'll want the food you pack to be high in water and protein but be small enough that you can carry a lot in a small amount of space. Matches, a flashlight, and a hunting knife are good items to have, as well.

Take the fifth letter from the first word on the wooden sign in front of the District Office and write it in squares #8 and #9 of the mystery word.

NEXT...

Now face the sign and turn to the east. Walk east toward the handicap sign and stop when you reach the trash can. Look for the sign with the A in a blue circle. What does the letter A stand for? Take the third letter from the first word on the sign and insert in the square #6 of the mystery word.



FINALLY...

Put a "K" in square #5 and unscramble the mystery word.

Now your Quest has ended. Match your mystery word with a large wooden sign nearby, and look for the Quest Box hidden underneath! When you find the box, please sign the log book and let us know what you thought of this Quest. Stamp your page as proof of your accomplishment, and then put the box back in its hiding place for the next person to find. Keep the location of the clues and box a secret so the activity can remain fun for all.

Fill in the boxes with the answers to the clues to solve the Quest.

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1 2 3 4 5

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6 7 8 9 10 11

When you've found the Quest Box, sign your name and stamp the back of your book to mark your accomplishment. Don't forget to seal the box tightly and return it to its hiding place for the next person to find!

*For more information about tsunami safety on the coast, visit
www.oregontsunami.org*

*If you enjoyed this Quest, check out **The Oregon Coast Quest Book 2023-24 Edition**, which contains maps and directions for this Quest and 29 other clue-directed hunts across seven counties.*

*For more information and to find a bookseller, visit
seagrant.oregonstate.edu/quests.*