# STORM SURGE INFORMATION FOR THE PUBLIC.

This leaflet contains important information about storm surges, such as how you will be warned and what to do in the event of a storm surge. It is distributed to all households in the storm surge-prone area of Hamburg.

The inside of this leaflet provides information about the storm surge-prone area where you live or work. Please note that much of this area is protected by the main dike line (red line) and could only be at risk in the very unlikely event of the flood defences failing or overflowing. The Port of Hamburg, Speicherstadt and HafenCity are exceptions to this rule. They lie in front of the main dike line.

# AND SPEICHERSTADT



# **Escape to upper floors**

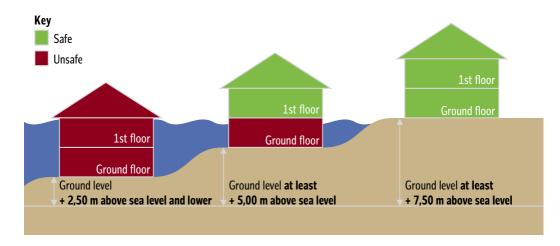
In the event of a very severe storm surge of more than +7.30 m above sea level, the following instructions apply:

If you live in the **evacuation zone**, you must definitely leave your apartment / house!

If you live in the **warning area**, please check whether your apartment / house offers sufficient protection. The graphic below is intended to help you with this.

Find out the altitude of your apartment / house, if you do not know it.

The use of internet geoportals, GPS devices, apps for altitude measurement as well as maps with altitude information can be helpful.



This graphic is intended to explain the wording "escape to upper floors" in more detail. It only applies to the warning area and refers to a floor height of 2.50 m. If you have different storey heights, you must take these into account.

Alle Informationen auch online in leichter Sprache verfügbar:

All infomation also available in English:

Вся информация также доступна на русском языке:

Wszystkie informacje dostępne również w języku polskim:

Tüm bilgiler ayrıca Türkçe olarak mevcuttur:

جميع المعلومات متاحة باللغة العربية على الموقع التالي:



### **Checklist**

#### General information about a storm surge

You will be warned in good time before the onset of a storm surge by:

- Fireworks (harbour and surrounding area),
- Loudspeaker announcements (HafenCity, Elbe area in Altona),
- » Radio warnings,

In the event of a very severe storm surge, also by:

- >> Subtitles on television,
- Siren signal (one-minute rising and falling wail)
- In addition, you can be warned via the warning app NINA on your smartphone if you have installed it.

#### You should then do the following:

Switch on the radio! e.g. Radio Hamburg or NDR 90.3



Pay attention to loudspeaker announcements!



Follow the instructions given by the authorities!



Tell the neighbours!



# Correct behaviour in the event of a forecast of a very severe storm surge of more than +7.30 m above sea level

Go to higher floors in the warning area!



Leave the marked evacuation zones!



Go to higher floors if you can no longer leave the **evacuation zone!** 



Sick, infirm, disabled people who have no other help can contact 112 to leave the area in case of evacuation.



Take important documents, important medicines and money with you!



If you still have time:

- >> Turn off electricity and gas!
- >> Have a torch ready!
- Protect your possessions and move valuable items to upper floors!
- Move chemicals, paints, fuels, etc. to upper floors!
- Fill heating oil tanks with water if necessary to prevent floating!

# **Storm surge forecasts – who informs you?**

Storm surges are natural events. The forecasts depend on the prevailing weather conditions. These can change significantly within a very short time. Therefore, keep yourself informed about the current forecasts.

You can obtain information about the expected water level by calling the following numbers:

Storm surge announcement service 040 / 428 99 11 11

Federal Maritime and Hydrographic Agency (BSH) 040 / 31 90-31 90

Automatic water level announcement gauge St. Pauli 040 / 428 47 66 02

or on the Internet at: www.hamburg-port-authority.de/de/wasser/hochwasserschutz or https://tableau.bsh.de/views/Wasserstand\_Nordsee\_Pegelseite/Wasserstand\_Kurve?Pegel=Hamburg In the event of a storm surge forecast of more than 4.50 m above sea level, the forecasts of the Hamburg Storm Surge Warning Service (WADI) are exclusively authoritative for Hamburg!

#### Warnings to your smartphone

Free alert apps can give you alerts via your smartphone. They will work if you have reception, the smartphone is not switched off, on flight mode or muted, and provided the networks of the mobile phone providers are not affected in a crisis. Therefore, warning apps are merely a supplement to other warning methods.

Official warnings and hazard information are issued in Hamburg by the police, the fire department, the Hamburg Storm Surge Warning Service (WADI) or the central disaster service staff of the Hamburg Ministry of the Interior and Sports. These messages are sent to radio and television stations via the Modular Warning System MoWaS. You can also receive these warning messages via the warning app **NINA** (= Emergency Information and News App). They contain brief information about the danger as well as recommendations on what to do. These messages are also forwarded to the apps KATWARN or BIWAPP.

The **WarnWetter** app from the German Weather Service warns you of weather hazards such as storms, icy roads, snow, heat and more.

#### Any other questions?

Then please contact the disaster control department of your district office (Bezirksamt) or the Ministry of the Interior and Sports: Your direct line to the Hamburg government departments is the **HamburgService phone number** on **115**, where you will be referred accordingly.

Published by:
Ministry of the Interior and Sports
Ministry for the Environment, Climate, Energy and Agriculture
www.hamburg.de/katastrophenschutz/
last updated: September 2021

