



## **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 dyke 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 dyke line.

# **ALSTER AREA**



Hamburg

# Checklist

## General information about a storm surge

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

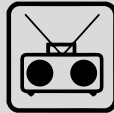
- » Fireworks (harbour and surrounding area),
- » Loudspeaker announcements (HafenCity, northern bank of the Elbe, evacuation areas, areas south of the Elbe),
- » Radio warnings,
- » German warning app NINA

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

- » Subtitles on television,
- » Siren signal (one-minute rising and falling wail)
- » Cell broadcast

## 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!

# 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:

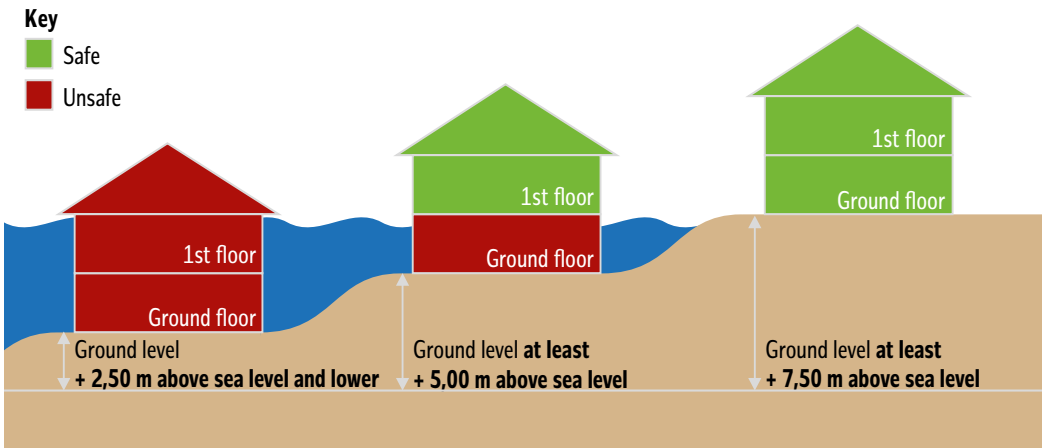
If you live in the **evacuation zone**, you must definitely leave your apartment / house!

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.

You can also get help with this at [www.hamburg.de/katastrophenschutz](http://www.hamburg.de/katastrophenschutz)



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 und in leichter Sprache verfügbar:

All information also available online in English:

Вся інформація також доступна онлайн українською мовою:

Wszystkie informacje dostępne także online w języku polskim:

Tüm bilgiler çevrimiçi olarak Türkçe olarak da mevcuttur:

جميع المعلومات متاحة أيضًا على الإنترنت باللغة العربية



[www.hamburg.de/katastrophenschutz](http://www.hamburg.de/katastrophenschutz)

# 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

You can find further information at [www.hamburg.de/katastrophenschutz](http://www.hamburg.de/katastrophenschutz) and also find links to the current storm surge and flood forecasts from the Federal Maritime and Hydrographic Agency (BSH) and the Hamburg Storm Flood Warning Service (WADI). You can also read the water levels of Hamburg's inland waters on the Hamburg Inland Flood Warning Portal (WaBiHa).

**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!**

## How are you warned?

Official warnings and hazard information in Hamburg are issued by the police, the fire department, the Hamburg storm surge warning service or the central disaster service team of the Hamburg Interior and Sport Authority.

Depending on the urgency, the warnings are distributed via regional radio stations, the digital billboards in the city or via cell broadcast. You can receive current warning messages with recommended actions and behavioral tips directly to your cell phone using the free NINA warning app, provided your cell phone is not switched off or in airplane mode.

Sirens warn you of extreme danger. You will then receive more detailed information in NINA.

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.

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Ministry of the Interior and Sports

Ministry for the Environment, Climate, Energy and Agriculture

[www.hamburg.de/katastrophenschutz/](http://www.hamburg.de/katastrophenschutz/)


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# Storm surge information for residents of the Alster area

In areas close to the Alster and its tributaries, minor flooding of streets and areas may occur in the event of a very high storm surge (Elbe) of more than +7.30 m above sea level at the St. Pauli gauge and in the very unlikely event of a failure of the flood protection systems in the city centre.

Such a scenario is very unlikely. A storm surge of +7.30 m above sea level has never occurred before. Moreover, the flood protection systems in Hamburg are very safe. However, such an event cannot be completely ruled out. In such a case, cellars and rooms on lower floors could be at risk. When such a storm surge is announced, secure endangered areas and do not stay in low-lying areas.

## Explanation of symbols

-  Boundary of the warning area
-  Main dyke line

0 100 500 1000m

**Warning areas**  
from storm surge level +7.30 m above sea level  
Leave the area as a precaution, if you have no means of escaping to the upper floors (see overleaf)!

**Safe Areas**

**Safe Areas**

**Safe Areas**

**Safe Areas**

**Leaflet City Centre**

**Leaflet Hamburg-Mitte and Veddel**

**Leaflet HafenCity and Speicherstadt**

