

When the Landslip Warning is in force

How to protect your family and yourself



Landslip Warning

The Landslip Warning is broadcast on radio and television to alert the public to the high risk of many landslides as a result of persistent heavy rainfall. Landslip Warnings are issued by the Hong Kong Observatory in consultation with the Geotechnical Engineering Office (GEO).

Landslip Warning Signs

For slopes and retaining walls which have been identified to be substandard or to pose a landslide risk, appropriate warning signs will be erected. Four types of warning signs are used:



Man-made Slope

This sign signifies a man-made slope which has been included in the Landslip Prevention and Mitigation (LPMit) Programme works contract, or a man-made slope for which a statutory order (i.e. Dangerous Hillside Order) has been issued by the Building Authority, requiring investigation and/or remedial works.



Natural Terrain

This sign signifies a slope in natural terrain which has been included in the LPMit Programme works contract, or an area in close proximity to completed natural terrain mitigation measures.



Slopes Along Busy Roads with a History of Landslides

This standard traffic warning sign 487 is erected along busy roads with a history of landslides.



Slopes Affecting Squatters included in the Non-development Clearance (NDC) Programme

This sign serves to warn the affected squatters about potential landslide risk before rehousing. The affected squatter structures have been found to be especially vulnerable to landslide risk during heavy rainfall, and GEO has recommended to include the squatter structures in the NDC programme.



How to Protect your family and yourself when the Landslip Warning is in force

- People should in general stay at home or remain in a safe shelter, and pay attention to news of weather and other warnings.
- For residents living close to slopes, stay in rooms on higher floors and/or furthest away from slopes.
- People should keep vigilant, monitor the situation and watch out for signs of landslide danger closely.
- Pedestrians should stay away from slopes and use alternative routes if possible.
- Motorists should avoid using roads with landslide warning signs. Otherwise, one should drive quickly through the road with safe speed and do not stop unnecessarily.
- Further guidance on keeping away from slopes and retaining walls during a Landslip Warning or during heavy rainfall are given in a separate leaflet "Landslide Self-help Tips".

Need for Evacuation of Squatter Structures during a Landslip Warning

If you live in a squatter structure and you have received a notice to evacuate because of landslide dangers or you believe that your squatter structure could be endangered by landslide risks (for example, when signs of landslide such as bulging, cracks or soil washouts appear), you should go to a safe place if condition permits. At times of Landslip Warning, temporary shelters will be provided by the District Offices.



You may call the Enquiry Hotline of the Home Affairs Department at 2835 1473 or 2572 8427 to locate the temporary shelters nearest to you.

Evidence of Landslide Danger

There may be signs of landslide danger on a slope/retaining wall or natural terrain before it collapses. Some typical signs of landslide danger are listed below:

- 1 Landslide debris on roads and footpaths.
- 2 New large cracks or ground subsidence in slopes, retaining walls or along road pavements.
- 3 Objects, such as mud, rocks, fragments of concrete/brick and uprooted vegetation, falling from slopes and retaining walls.
- 4 Sudden change in colour (from clear to muddy) or path of water flowing from slopes or retaining walls.
- 5 Concentrated water flowing onto slopes and retaining walls.
- 6 Cement or concrete surface of slopes bulging or being dislodged or signs of soil erosion underway.
- 7 Breaking of catchwaters or serious overflow from catchpits or drains.
- 8 Flooding of water in hilly areas.
- 9 Sudden increase in seepage over an extensive area of a slope/retaining wall.
- 10 Listen out for cracking, rumbling or crunching sounds.

