How to Store Water

Store your water in thoroughly washed plastic, glass, fiberglass or enamel-lined metal containers. Never use a container that held a toxic substance or old milk containers.

Emergency Outdoor Water Sources

If you need to find water outside your home, you can use these sources. Be sure to purify the water by:
- Boiling
- Disinfection (household liquid bleach: 16 drops/gal. of water, stir & let stand 30 min.)
- Distillation (boil ? pot water & collect the vapor by tying a cup to the upside down pot lid - the cup shouldn’t dangle in the water—it will condense back to water in the cup)

Sources:
- Rainwater
- Streams, rivers & other moving bodies of water
- Ponds & lakes
- Natural Springs

Other Considerations

☐ Stock supplies to last several days to a week for each family member.
☐ Be prepared to relocate to a shelter during a prolonged power outage.
☐ Have extra cash on hand in case electronic transactions (ATM card, credit cards, etc.) cannot be processed.
☐ Work with your family in talking about the steps each needs to take to be ready if disaster happens.

Preparedness is everyone's job. Not just government agencies but all sectors of society -- service providers, businesses, civic and volunteer groups, industry associations and neighborhood associations, as well as every individual citizen -- should plan ahead for disaster.

During the first few hours or days following a disaster, essential services may not be available.

People must be ready to act on their own.
The 72-Hour Emergency Kit should be individually tailored to meet the basic survival needs for you and your family for at least three days and possibly up to a week. Most families prefer to store their emergency supplies in one location that is relatively safe, yet easily accessible if evacuation is required. This pamphlet gives suggestions of what you and your family should include in a 72-Hour Emergency Kit.

**Emergency Needs**

- Battery Powered Radio
- First Aid Kit & Manual
- Sleeping Bags & Blankets
- (wool & thermal)
- Manual Can Opener
- Waterproof/Windproof Matches
- Non-Perishable Foods
- Flashlight

Suggested non-perishable food items: Ready-to-eat goods in unbreakable containers, canned meats, juice, fruits & vegetables, powdered milk, infant care foods, crackers, peanut butter, freeze-dried & dehydrated goods.

**Sanitation Kit**

- Plastic Bucket w/ Fitted Lid
- Plastic Bags & Ties
- Disinfectant
- Improvised Toilet Seat
- Paper Cups & Plates
- Personal Toiletries
- Soap
- Toilet paper
- Baby Supplies
- Aluminum Foil
- Paper Towels
- Personal Hygienic
- Plastic Utensils

**Other Emergency Needs**

- Pen & Paper
- Money
- Address & Phone Numbers
- Work Gloves
- Basic Tools

**Standard First Aid Kit**

- First Aid Manual
- Aspirin or Pain Relievers
- Laxatives
- Rubbing Alcohol
- Diarrhea Medicine
- Petroleum Jelly
- Salt
- Gauze
- Band-aid
- Triangular Bandage (36"x36"x52")
- Elastic Bandage
- Cotton Balls
- Cotton Swabs
- Safety Pins
- Scissors
- Thermometer
- Sanitary Napkins (Pressure Dressing)
- Disposable Diapers (Dressing/Splint/Padding)
- Micropore Adhesive, Paper Tape
- Matches
- Needles
- Tweezers
- Small Splints, Popsicle Sticks
- Heavy String
- Syrup of Ipecac
- Individual Medical Needs
- Baking Soda (¼ tsp. soda + 1 tsp. salt + 1 qt. water for shock)

**Car Survival Kit**

- Maintain at Least ½ Tank of Gas
- Essential Medications
- First Aid Kit & Manual
- Class ABC Fire Extinguisher
- Radio & Batteries
- Non-Perishable Food Stored in Coffee Can
- Bottled Water
- Bag of Sand, Shovel and Tools
- Sundry Kit, Paper & Pencil, Map, Tissues, Pre-moistened Towels, Plastic Bags
- Flashlights & Batteries
- Reflector & Flares
- Waterproof Matches & Candles
- Jumper Cables
- Short Rubber Hose for Siphoning
- Blankets or Sleeping Bags

**Make Copies of All Legal Papers**

- Marriage License
- House Mortgage
- Vacation Home / Property Ownership
- Automotive Ownership
- Motor Home Ownership
- Wills
- Jewelry Appraisals
- Drivers Licenses
- Trailers, Snowmobiles, Boat Ownership
- Insurance Policies
- Bank Accounts

**Establish An Out-Of-State Telephone Contact**

1. Contact should be available 24–7–365
2. Landline calls out will not overload phone lines, but incoming and cell phones in a disaster area will.
3. All relatives should be informed now on procedures to call the phone contact, not after a disaster has occurred.
4. Include individual location and status when checking in.
5. Before a disaster take color pictures of every room plus pictures of valuables. Send one copy of legal papers and one copy of pictures to your out-of-state contact.

**Plan How Your Family Will Stay in Contact if Separated by Disaster**

Pick two meeting places:
- A location a safe distance from your home in case of fire
- A place outside your neighborhood in case you can’t return home

**When Assembling Emergency Supplies for the Household, Include Items for Pets**

- Extra food
  - The food should be dry and stored in sturdy containers.
- Kitty litter
- Large capacity self-feeder and water dispenser
- Extra medications

**Meet with Neighbors**

Plan how the neighborhood could work together after a disaster. Know you neighbors’ skills (medical, technical). Consider how you could help neighbors who have special needs, such as elderly or disabled persons. Make plans for child care in case parents can’t get home.

**Contact Your Local Emergency Management Office**

- Find out which disasters are most likely to happen in your community.
- Ask how you would be warned.