

Emergency preparedness Tip of the Month - WATER

Disasters can change everything! When an emergency happens you may have to decide what to do very quickly, while you are worrying about what might happen next. By **planning ahead**, it is easier to make the right decisions when the worst happens and **take steps to lower your risk**.



Sign up for **Do 1 Thing** to help you continue to make small steps to prepare for emergencies. <http://do1thing.com/#>

Do 1 Thing - Month #1 - WATER

Goal: Have enough water on-hand for your family to last 3 days (72 hours) at the minimum. This should be about 3 gallons per person. Include your pet(s). One gallon extra gallon for a medium size pet.

1 day, 1 person = 1 gallon (or 128 ounces) = 7-20 ounce bottles = 4 liters

3 days, 1 person = 3 gallons (or 384 ounces) – 21-20 ounce bottles = 12 liters



Tips:

- During an emergency you should **drink at least two quarts (one half gallon) of water a day**. Drink 3-4 quarts a day if you are in hot climate, pregnant, sick, or a child. Some of your emergency water supply will be used for cooking or washing. Bottled water should be replaced once a year.
- If you get your water from a municipal water system, there is no need to disinfect tap water before bottling. If you get your water from private well, disinfect tap water before bottling. Place six drops of bleach for each gallon of water, shake well, and let sit for 30 minutes. Replace your water every six months if you bottle your own. Always sanitize your bottles before refilling them. **Store your water in a cool, dark place.**
- If you have freezer space, **freeze part of your water supply**. This has the added advantage of keeping food in the freezer cold longer during a power outage.
- **Use clear plastic bottles with tight sealing caps.** Milk jugs don't make good water storage container, they don't seal well and water stored in them can sometimes develop a plastic taste. Only use bottles that originally had beverages in them (large plastic soft drink bottles work well).



- Do not use Water Heater water if the tank or fixtures have been submerged in floodwater!

****MAKE TIME and GET STARTED TODAY! You will be glad you did.****

For more information on Emergency Preparedness:

<http://preparesocal.org/tips-tools/make-a-plan#sthash.sckpgLMt.dpuf>

or

<http://www.ready.gov/>

Past Tips of the month can be found on SharePoint:

<http://web1/admin/disasterprep/default.aspx?RootFolder=%2fadmin%2fdisasterprep%2fShared%20Documents%2fEmergency%20Tips%20of%20the%20Month&FolderCTID=&View=%7b357D29CD%2dEC04%2d49E3%2d9876%2d59B38B8DDC60%7d>

If this tip has been helpful or you have info about Emergency Preparedness you would like to share, please contact Robin Conners.