

*WATER*

*is ESSENTIAL*

# STORED EMERGENCY WATER

## The Best Insurance You Can Have

- We all have home insurance, auto insurance, health insurance, etc, but what about insuring you have water on-hand for an emergency?
  - Water is:
    - Very inexpensive
    - Easy to acquire
    - Easy to store
    - Lasts a long time
    - And may save your life in the event of a major disaster.
  - Please note, it is not recommended to drink pool or spa water. However, water from these sources are wonderful for flushing toilets if your house water supply has lost pressure.

# Why is water so important?

- IT'S PROBABLY THE MOST IMPORTANT PREPARATION YOU SHOULD DO FOR AN EMERGENCY.
- **Do not assume you can get water from someone else or from government emergency services.**
- WHY IS WATER SO IMPORTANT???
  - A human being can only live without water for 3 to 4 days.
- WHAT SHOULD YOU DO???
  - Have water stored on your property in preparation for a disaster that could render your water company's water supply to your home unavailable or non-potable.
- HOW MUCH SHOULD YOU HAVE ON-HAND?
  - Assume 1 gallon per person per day, and more if you have pets.

# RECOMMENDED WATER STORAGE OPTIONS

- Store water in a 55 gallon drum.
- And/or
- Buy water from a water distributor packaged in cardboard boxes.
  - For example, Sparkletts Water, Arrowhead Water, etc.



# 55 Gallon Drum of Potable Water

- Best if stored in non-sunlight area.
- Small footprint fits easily in garage, basements, etc.
- Easily extracted with the manual pump.
- Purchase at an Army/Navy Surplus Store
  - \$69.95 for 55 gallon drum
  - \$16.95 for manual pump
- Fill with home tap water treated with liquid bleach per our included instructions.



# Purchase Water from a Water Distributor

- For example:
- COST
  - Arrowhead Water Delivery for 50 gallons is \$9.49/box of 5 gallons (2 2-1/2 gallon containers). Delivery fee is \$7.95. ~\$105 total delivered cost.
- STORAGE AREA
  - In an area 3' x 3' x 3' you can store over 100 gallons of commercial water. This would provide 50 days of water for a family of two.
- WATER LIFE
  - The expiration date is a “taste” expiration, not a water quality expiration. Hence, the water is perfectly healthy even after the water container expiration date if stored out of direct sunlight and kept in boxed container.



# **EMERGENCY WATER STORAGE INFORMATION**

- **Where can I buy a 55 gallon drum for water storage?**

If you buy a water drum you'll need the drum, manual pump, cap wrench, and a water purifier (see below for some local supply houses, approximate costs, and photo). You can buy the water drum, manual pump, and drum plug wrench from a local Army/Navy Surplus Store. For example, Major Surplus and Survival on West Alondra in Gardena. You don't need to purchase their water purification kit. It's better to purify your water with the instructions I've included. You can purchase the water drum, pump, and wrench for approximately \$100.

- **How do you care for water in a 55 gal drum?**

It's perfectly fine to fill the container with PVE tap water (California Water Service), add 1 teaspoon of chlorine bleach (eg. Clorox contains approximately 8.25% Sodium Hypochlorite) for every five (5) gallons of water, seal the cap so no contaminants can get in, and shake the container vigorously for 15 seconds to kill any bacteria above the water line. This water is drinkable after 60 minutes (the chlorine will dissipate within this time). Wash the plug seal and plug hole with the same water and chlorine bleach solution. If the seal is good, the water can last indefinitely. However, the health department recommends replacing and purifying the water in this manner every six months.

- **Can the drum be stored in direct sunlight?**

- 55 gallon water drums are made specifically for water storage and are thick blue plastic, not transparent. They say that you can store it in direct sunlight but it is best stored in a shaded area.

- **How do you get the water out of the drum?**

You can buy a manual pump that screws into the top when needed. See photo.

- **Are there other storage options?**

Another water storage option is stackable cube type water containers. You can get these from numerous companies including Sparkletts, Arrowhead, etc. They're smaller and typically cost more, but they are easier to move around. These containers are typically sold inside a cardboard box to help keep light out. We have been told that so long as the seal is not broken, this water is good indefinitely, and any expiration date pertains to the taste of the water, not the health of the water.