



**JOSHUA BASIN
WATER DISTRICT**

Water for Emergencies



Before the Emergency Happens, Prepare Your Emergency Water Supply

Take the time NOW to review and restock your emergency water supply. Store a minimum of one gallon per person per day for three days. Consider storing more if you can - as much as you can.

Keep in mind our hot, dry weather and plan accordingly. You will need:

Water for drinking • Water for preparing food • Water for your pets • Water for hygiene

- For emergency supply, commercially bottled water is recommended.
- If you are preparing your own containers, you can purchase food-grade water containers from camping supply stores.
- If you want to re-use containers, two-liter plastic soft drink bottles are a good choice.
- Don't use containers that have been used for milk or fruit juice.
- Don't use glass containers - they are heavy and may break.
- Clean the plastic containers with dishwashing soap and water and rinse well.
- Then sanitize the bottles with a mix of 1 teaspoon unscented liquid household chlorine bleach to 1 quart of water; swish the bottles, then rinse thoroughly.
- Fill to the top with tap water and tightly twist on the original cap - avoid touching the inside of the cap before putting it on.
- Write the date on the container.
- Store water in a cool, dark place.
- FEMA (the Federal Emergency Management Agency) recommends replacing water every six months if not using commercially bottled water.

During an Emergency: Other Water in Your Home

- Water in your water heater
- Water in the Pipes
- Ice cubes in your freezer

Don't Use Water From

- Toilet tanks or bowls
- Swimming pools or spas
- Waterbeds

Again, keep our warm summers in mind. If your bottled emergency water supply has been exposed to high temperatures (in a warm garage, or the trunk of your car, for example) you may want to re-sanitize and re-fill bottles more often.

In an emergency, you might need to boil your tap water before drinking or using it. Consider how you can heat and boil water if utility services are interrupted.

Do you have:

- an outdoor barbecue?
- indoor or outdoor fireplace or firepit?
- a camp stove?



Plan ahead and be sure that you have fuel on hand in case the need arises.