

Step Two – December 2015

Water Storage

Last month we talked about containers that will protect the things we put in our 96 hour kit and some kind of a bag for our clothes and footwear.

This month we want to talk about water storage, we know people can survive without food for 96 hours, but we can't survive without water. Some studies show that we could be without water sources for up to 90 days after an earthquake. So, water storage is very important for our kit, as is some kind of a water purifier.

Water storage and having some way to filter our water is very important, so next month we will talk about water filters/purifiers.

We should store at least one gallon of water per person per day, don't forget your pets which should be the same one gallon per day.

One of the biggest problems with storing water is the weight. Water weighs about 8.3 pounds per gallon. So a family of four would need about 130 pounds of water, a family of 6 would be almost 200 pounds. This could be difficult to move and somewhat bulky to store.

We like the idea of some kind of a container with wheels. You can find some on the internet from around 50 to 60 dollars. Check to make sure they are food grade safe so they can store water for the long term.

A lot of people like to use the 30 gallon or 55 gallon water drums. These are great for the purpose of water storage, but if you had to move them it would be quite difficult. 30 gallons of water weighs about 250 pounds and 55 gallons is about 450 pounds. That's why we like the idea of having some kind of a portable water storage for your emergency kit.

One idea for containers is to recycle soda pop containers. If you do this, make sure you wash them thoroughly and rinse with some kind of a bleach solution. And remember to add 1/8 teaspoon of chlorine per gallon of water. Just a reminder, some containers will break down over time and could leach chemicals. They may also be porous, so they may have an unpleasant flavor over time. These kind of containers are not made for long term storage, so it is recommended to replace them every year.

We also recommend getting some stabilized oxygen, which you can find on line for about 25 dollars. With this stabilizer you should be able to store water for five years without changing it out.

Don't forget to put another 10 dollars in small bills in your kit.

Once again these are just ideas, study and research and find out what will work best for you and your family

For more information visit: <http://www.ready.gov/water>



We have seen these types of containers in sporting goods stores, grocery stores and big box stores.

