

Preparing Wisely

Emergency Supply & Food Storage
144 S. Mesa Dr, ste D, Mesa, AZ 85210
Phone (480) 964-3077

Water Storage

What is the purpose of storing water?

Water storage is an essential part of preparedness and is even more important in preserving life than food. Natural disasters such as earthquakes or severe floods could disrupt water supplies or pollute existing supplies of water.

It is recommended that we store at least a two-week supply of drinking water. Fourteen (14) gallons of water per person is the recommended quantity of drinking water. This is the minimum amount recommended for just drinking water. Additional amounts of water would be needed for first aid, washing and for food preparation.

Water Preparation and Rotation:

Many people prefer using filtered or purified water for storing water. However, municipal sourced water (tap water) is also a good option for water storage. Municipal water has been cleaned and then treated with chlorine, thus making it stable for 3-6 months of storage.

Some folks like to add bleach to extend the storage of water for 6-12 months. Bleach must be administered carefully as high doses can hurt the body and lead to diarrhea, which would be potentially devastating in an emergency. Utilize household bleach (5% sodium hypochlorite) that is non-scented or non-treated. Use 8 drops per gallon, or ½ teaspoon per 5 gallons. This would be ¼ cup bleach for 55 gallon drums. Rotate the water every six months to a year.

Water Treatment Options:

There are currently two EPA registered water treatment options out on the market: Water Preserver and AquaMira Water Treatment. Both of these products treat the water and allow for treatment of up to 5 years without rotation. With these products the investment is up front in terms of purchasing the product. However, they usually pay for themselves over time when considering time and money involved in rotating large barrels.