

Emergency Water Supply Checklist

- Purposes:
1. To have enough stored water to carry you through a temporary, short-term emergency.
 2. To have the ability to obtain, filter and purify water for an emergency of long duration.

Short-Term Emergency

- 3 Days Water Supply (1 gallon of water per day for each person in your family)

One gallon of water per day per person only covers water for drinking and some minor sanitation needs like tooth brushing and minor sponge-bath bathing. Until you know that water service will be restored, you should carefully ration what you have.

Not-So-Short-Term Emergency – 3 Weeks Water Supply (21 gallons per person)

- 30 gallon water barrel
- water stabilizer
- a pump to get the water out of the barrel

Long Term Emergency

- a well, a creek, a river or a reservoir
- a manual pump to get water from the well
- containers and conveyances to move water from other sources to where you are
- a water purification system

Staying in your home after a major disaster will only be possible if you have nearby access to a supply of water and ways in which to make that water safe to drink.

After the first few days, your biggest problem will not be water. Instead, the problem will be waste disposal, specifically human waste disposal. Even if your sewer system continues to function, you will need a lot of water to make it work. You won't want to be flushing your drinking water down the toilet, so you will need a way to dispose of human waste in a manner that doesn't expose you and your family to disease and extremely foul odors as a result of improper disposition of human waste.

See the [Sanitation Checklist](#) and other information about sanitation on this website. It is a difficult and complicated problem to solve and without a viable long-term solution you will have to leave your home and go somewhere where it can be solved.