

The Emergency Water Plan

Store first, treat second.

Two methods beat one.

Know the limit.

STORE: 1 gallon per person per day, at least 3 days, 2 weeks if you can.

Family of four: 12 gallons for 3 days, 56 gallons for 2 weeks. **Replace tap water every 6 months.**

My household: people. 3 days = gallons. 2 weeks = gallons.

What does the notice say?

Boil water

Germ. Boil fixes it.

Do not drink

Chemicals. Use bottled water. Don't boil it and drink it.

Do not use

Use bottled water for everything.

Fuel smell

Stop. Use another source.

Treatment does not remove chemicals.

TREAT

1 Cloudy? Cloth or coffee filter, or settle and pour off.

2 Boil: 1 minute rolling, 3 minutes above 5,000 feet.

3 Can't boil? Bleach, 8 drops per gallon (16 if cloudy, colored or very cold), stir, wait 30 minutes. No slight chlorine smell: repeat, wait 15 more.

4 Filter alone is not enough: portable filters don't remove viruses.

First night: no fridge ice. Bottled or boiled water for teeth, formula and pets.

STORED WATER RUNS OUT: use, in this order

Water heater tank*

Melted ice cubes

Toilet tank, not the bowl

Canned liquid

* Only if contaminated water did not enter your plumbing. Never the radiator or boiler tank.

Then: treated rain or surface water.

Flooded well or cistern: do not use until disinfected or cleaned and tested.

NEVER use for drinking: radiator or boiler water, pool or spa water, floodwater.

Generator: outdoors only, 20 feet from openings.

Water company:

County health department:

Poison Control 1-800-222-1222