

Good Drinking Water During A Disaster

The Need For Filtered Water During A Disaster:

Trust no water that you find to be clean and pure to drink.

All water you find during a disaster of any kind must be considered bad.

You do not know if the water you find will give you Typhoid, Diarrhea, Guardia, Cryptosporidium, Cholera, and etc., for there are many more diseases you can get from bad water, ice cubes, foods made with water, or others handling food.

Also viruses, protozoans, and parasites can be in the water too.

What are the most common factors between the above diseases?

Is mainly bad drinking water and improper sewage system that cause most of the problems.

The secret is proper water filtering and/or boiling of water.

Learn to make a water filter out of many type of sources when a disaster hits, if only you can find is unsafe water, for all water is unsafe during a disaster.

Any kind of flooding, mud slides, earthquakes, tsunamis, tornados, can cause water pipes break and allow contamination to enter in to the water supply.

The need to know how to make a water filter is greater than ever.

During a disaster, one good way is to use sand.

Sand is a natural way of purifying water under the circumstance.

Even children can learn how to do this, it is easy.

Good Drinking Water During A Disaster

The first thing you will need is a container of some sorts.

- a. Empty a #10 can is best.
- b. Empty plastic bottle.
- c. Cut off a pant leg and tie one end.
- d. PVC pipe is good.
- e. A car or bike inter tube is also good.
- f. Even an old garden hose is better then nothing.
- g. A hollow tree branch will work too.
- h. Bamboo is good too.
- i. Several blankets put in layers will work well.
- j. Make a cone out of any material you may have, like plastic, plastic table clothe, and etc., you will need to tie it with something to keep it from opening up.
- k. Any thing that you can think of that will hold the material is better then nothing, I stress better then nothing.

Once you have a container you half way there, the other half is find any water.

These containers must have some kind of openings at the bottom, whether you punch hole or it has its own opening that is small enough to hold back the material.

The first thing we need to do for our filter is put some thing to prevent the sand from going straight out the bottom when we pour in our water.

- a. Small pebbles larger then the holes we put in or already have.
- b. Put a couple hand full of grass of some sort, making sure it is not poisonous.
- c. Some strips of clothing.
- d. Wood chips.
- e. Grass
- f. Moss
- g. Leaves
- h. Any good and healthy material.

The next layer you should put a couple of inches of gravel.

Next, we will use sand, which fills most of the container.

Get a clean and empty container to hold the clean water that comes out the bottom of your home made water filter.

Good Drinking Water During A Disaster

Pour in your water at the top of your filter, even if it looks clean.

Now the first few gallons of water will have mud and dirty looking water (murky).

You can re-filter it again, or toss it, it will clear right up.

When the water comes out clean and clear, then it is much safer to drink then before without the water filter you built.

Now you have much safer water to drink, but it may still have some harmful bacteria that we mentioned above that your filter did not remove all of them.

The next step to make sure is to boil the filter water to remove all the harmful bacteria.

To make a better water filter is to add a layer of crushed charcoal from good hard wood, not the gray dust (ash), just after the small gravel and a layer of sand, and then a layer of crushed charcoal again and more sand at the top, remembering the larger the layers the safer the filtered water.

Making the filter bigger and the more layers you add to it, the better the water.

The filter should trap most of the stuff we are mainly worried about as mentioned above.

The filter will take care of the murkiness, taste, etc and then the boiling will get the rest.

Digging A Hole For Good Filtered Water:

The ground around you is a good filter for water.

When you find a water source, like a pond, lake, stream, river, etc., and the water may be contaminated, we need to use the ground to filter the water.

Going about 10' or more from the source, more the better, and dig yourself a large hole or pit, but if the water is standing water, it is better to dig much further away from the source.

When you hit water, dig a little further and let the water fill in the bottom of the hole.

You may have to remove this water until it looks clean; then, if you can boil it is best.

Good Drinking Water During A Disaster

If near salty water, dig further away like 15 times further away for good drinking water.

The Use Of Bleach For Purify Water:

Need to filter the murky water before adding bleach, that way you use less liquid bleach.

Liquid bleach of any kind will work at purifying your water.

You need to put about 8 drops of liquid bleach to a gallon of water and shake well, "NOT" powdered bleached.

Let stand 13 to 30 minutes or more for the bleach to work.

Powdered bleaches are not good for you.

Before drinking, check for a slight chlorine odor.

If you can not smell any chlorine in the water, you need to repeat again the above steps.

The cleaning process uses up the liquid bleach, if you do not smell the chlorine odor, you must repeat the process again.

Using Solar To Get Water:

Dig a hole smaller than your plastic tarp.

Place a clean can or clean cup in the middle of the hole.

Place your plastic tarp over the hole and place rocks, logs, or dirt all around the tarp to seal the air inside the hole.

Place a small stone in the middle of the plastic tarp to cause it to drape so the water drips into the can or cup.

With the heat from the sun warms up the air and draws the moisture from the soil and collects on the bottom side of the tarp and run to the middle and drip into the can or cup.

Soon you will have some water to drink, not much but it is better than nothing.

Good Drinking Water During A Disaster

To get more water is to toss in to the hole any plants you can find and with the heat in the hole you get more water.

By placing some dirty water into the solar still hole and allow it to evaporate as above.

General Guide Lines:

Your survival is all about using your common sense and the resources around you.

You need to always use different containers for bad water from the containers you use for good drinking water in.

Never mix the two types of containers you use.

Looking for the best type of water:

- a. Best – Running water is generally better than still water.
- b. Best – Check for Water coming out of the ground from a spring is generally more pure than water that has been running over the ground
- c. Better – Look for water that is clear looking
- d. Avoid – Water that has any kind of algae growing in it
- e. Avoid – Any discolored water
- f. Avoid – All water in marshes and swamps
- g. Avoid – All water that is not running

Note: Unless you filter and boil or bleach all water before drinking.

Note: This is not taking into account any type of chemical pollutants, whether man made or natural.

Note: Boiling water will not get rid of heavy metals, mercury, arsenic, cyanide, chemicals from cars and trucks, down river from habitation can be dangerous, farm lands have fertilizers and pesticides.

Note: Boiling is the best method for purifying your drinking water of bacteria and microbes, but not chemicals and bring the water to a rolling boil is all that is needed.

Good Drinking Water During A Disaster

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