

Water Plan and Purification

In moderate weather, if you are doing things that don't require a lot of energy, you need a minimum of half a gallon of water per day for drinking and food preparation- a total of seven gallons for a 2 week period. Another half a gallon per person, per day is recommended for bathing, brushing teeth and dish-washing.

A family of four would require a minimum of 28 gallons of water, and preferably 56 gallons, for a 2-week period. Don't overlook the water supply in the hot water tank and the toilet tank. **(Be sure to shut off the incoming water valve in case the local water supply is not safe.)**

Store water reserves in thoroughly washed, clean containers. Plastic containers with tight-fitting caps are best. Glass jars may be used but plastic has the advantage of being shatter proof and light weight. Metal Containers tend to give water an unpleasant taste.

Clean water stored in clean containers with tight-fitting lids will remain palatable for an indefinite period. Check the container occasionally for leaks or cloudiness. If the water starts to look or taste bad, change it. **If you have any doubts about the safety of the water to be stored, purify it before you store it.**

TO PURIFY WATER

1. The safest method of purifying water is to **boil it vigorously for 1-3 minutes**. To improve the taster of the water after it has been boiled, pour the water from container to another several times.
2. You can also purify water by adding any household bleach solution that contains 5.25 % of Sodium Hypochlorite. (Most common bleach solutions contain this amount). Add bleach solution to the water in a clean container. Mix thoroughly by stirring or shaking. Let stand for 30 minutes. The following information shows the proper amount of 5.25% solution to add to the water.

AMOUNT OF WATER	AMOUNT OF SOLUTION TO ADD TO:	
	CLEAR WATER	CLOUDY WATER
One Quart (1.4) Gallon	2 drops	4 drops
One Gallon	8 drops	16 drops
5 gallons	½ Teaspoon	1-Teaspoon

3. You can use ordinary 2 percent **Tincture of Iodine**, which you may have in your medicine cabinet, to purify small quantities of water. Add 3 drops of Tincture of Iodine to each quart of clear water, or 6 drops to each quart of cloudy water and stir thoroughly.
4. You can safely use water **purification tablets that release chlorine or iodine to purify water**. They are inexpensive and you can buy them at most sporting goods stores and at some drugstores.