

Step 9 – July 2016

Emergency Hygiene & Toilets

This month we want to talk about hygiene and emergency toilets. During a disaster hygiene may not be one of our first thoughts, but if you don't have any running water or sewer it will not take long before it does become important. You can make up a simple hygiene kit or buy one for around 15 or 20 buck, just make sure they have the things that you need like, toothbrush, toothpaste, body wipes, washcloths, hand sanitizer, toilet paper, baby supplies, razors and feminine products.

The next thing we need to talk about is an emergency toilet. A lot of people suggest a camping/RV toilet with all the chemicals that go th them. Now, this is a great idea for short term situations, and pefully they will have port-a-potties set up so you can empty your wn toilet.

However, in any large disaster it could be quite a while before you ve any running water or a working sewer line, and handling any nd of waste can be unpleasant and even dangerous.

Another system you can use is the 2 bucket system, which helps parate urine and feces. A day's worth of urine has 10 times the volume of feces. Now urine is generally considered sterile while feces does contain pathogens. The 2 bucket method can reduce disease risks and makes handling the contents of each bucket a little easier. This system does require 2 buckets. It would not be a bad idea to have 4 or 5 five gallon buckets just to be safe. It would be a good idea to mark one of the buckets "CLEANING" and keep it separate. You can buy 5 gallon buckets with a toilet seat for around 25 to 40 dollars. Also plan on about a gallon of carbon based material per day to use. Carbon based material consists of sawdust, small wood chips, forest litter, or finely shredded paper.

Now to use this system, put in a little carbon based material in the bottom of the feces bucket. Try not to mix feces and urine although some mixing is understandable. After using the bucket, make sure all toilet paper goes in the bucket and that all feces is covered with the carbon material, put the seat down and let it dry out. For the urine bucket, make sure you have a tight lid that fits and use the same steps. When you are done, make sure the urine lid is put back on tight. This way may not be pretty or pleasant, but it works in an emergency.

Remember don't forget to put a few more dollars in your 96hr kit.



of
wi
ho
o
ha
ki
se